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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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THE APPROACHING SESSION.

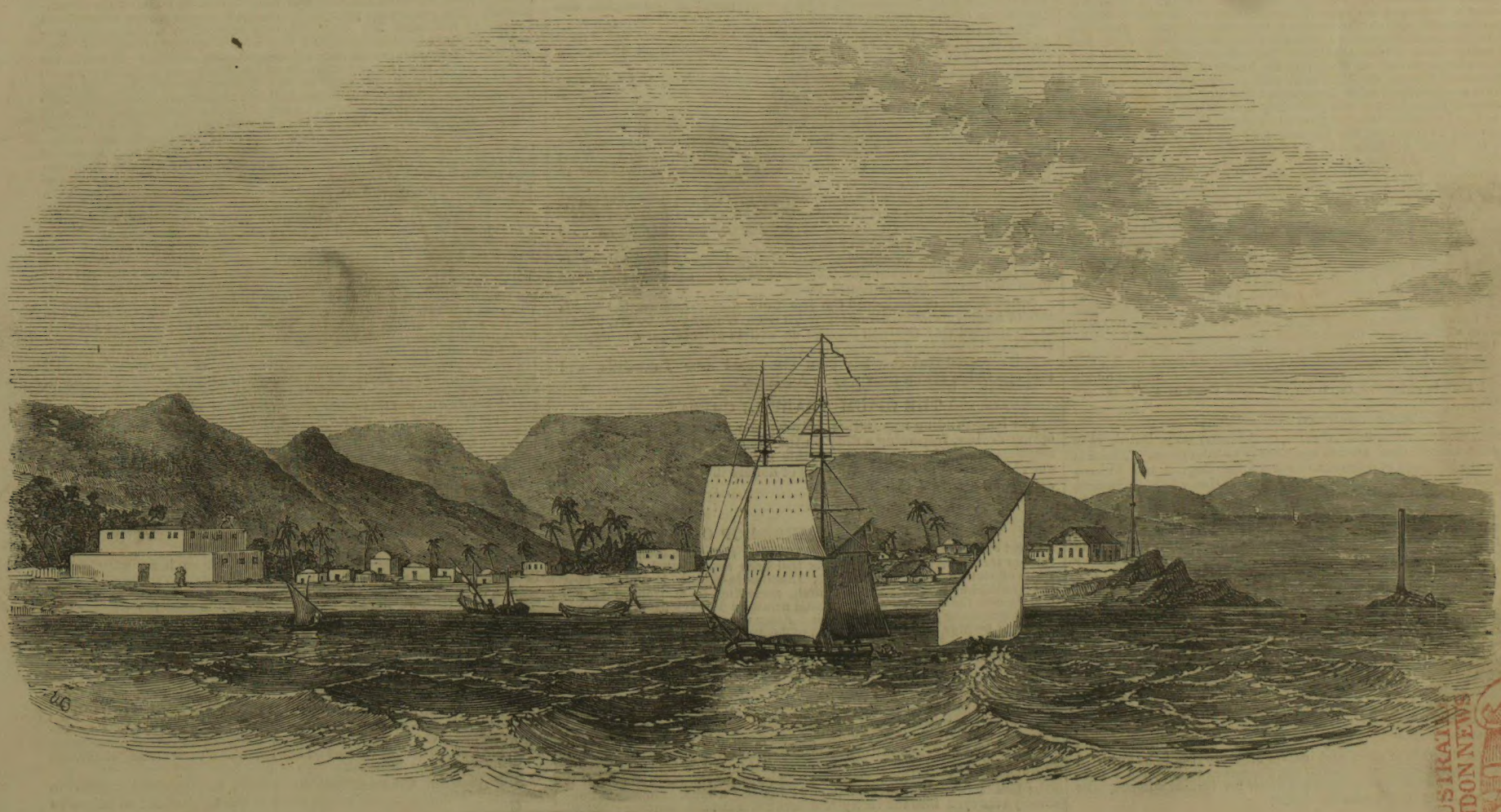
FOUR great questions of domestic interest are at this time before the public, each of which is sufficient to give Parliament ample work, and the satisfactory solution of any one of which would not only rescue the approaching Session from the charge of barrenness, but entitle it to honourable distinction in the annals of England. The first, and we may say the loudest, of these questions—considering the outcry that is made about it—is that of Transportation, involving the whole treatment of our criminal population, both before and after conviction. The second is the question of Popular Education, far more important, but not so likely to excite attention as the first, because it appeals more to the justice than to the fears of society, and more to the future than to the present. The third is the great fiscal question of the Income and Property Tax, which may be made to involve, if our Ministers are wise and bold, the subject of our national finances as a whole, and the general revision of the existing Revenue system in all its ramifications. The last, and, as many whose opinions are entitled to the highest respect will think, not the least, is the old but ever-recurring subject of Parliamentary Reform, upon which Lord John Russell is known, and the Premier is suspected, to be engaged. Here of itself is work enough for a busy Session, even without the large questions of Foreign, Indian, and Colonial Policy which are certain to demand the anxious consideration of the Government and the Legislature.

We shall have ample opportunities in the columns of this Journal to discuss these questions as they arise. In the mean time a few words on the subject of our criminal population, and on the means in the power of the nation for the prevention as well as for the punishment of crime, will not be inappropriate. The fears of society have made this the question of the day; and, as fear is not always the safest of lawgivers, it becomes necessary to take reason into our councils, if we would avoid both injustice and cruelty.

If the subject of National Education cannot be made to precede that of the punishment of crime in the consideration of Parliament, we trust that means may be found by some of the earnest men who understand both questions in all their bearings to discuss them simultaneously. The one so intimately affects the other, that all the measures which Fear and Vengeance may adopt to punish the full-grown criminal, will fail of their purpose, if nothing more effectual be done to train in the right way the neglected infants of the poor in our large towns and cities, than has been done hitherto by all voluntary and other agencies which have been at work amongst them. It is of no use to gather the flower of the poppy that grows among the corn, if we leave the root untouched. Always, like Sisyphus, to be rolling a stone up a hill, and always to see it bounding down again; or, like the Danaides, to be always drawing water from the well in sieves, is but sorry employment. But these fabulous labours are scarcely more hopeless than the task of dealing with our criminals by the modes we have hitherto adopted. We fill our prisons only to empty them; and we empty them only to fill them again with offenders even more hardened or more hypocritical. We box and unbox the plague; we neglect the young children; we suffer them to crawl and prowl about the streets; to learn how to beg, to swear, to lie, and to pilfer; and, when they grow old enough to feel the passions of men and women, we hold up our hands in astonishment, and are scandalised that they have been such apt pupils in the school of Evil as to have become veterans in iniquity whilst still in their teens. Yet it is not surprising, except to those who deny the influence and the efficacy of education, that in their manhood and womanhood they should be as intractable and incorrigible as the children of the desert—that their hands should be against every man, and every man's hands against theirs—and that they should make systematic war against society, and the institutions on which it is founded.

We know it will be objected by many able and well-meaning people that education does not prevent crime. We admit it to the fullest extent that the argument can be employed. The forger and the swindler, the fraudulent bank-projector, the concocter of bubble companies, the embezzler of other people's moneys, and the man of intense selfishness and of ungovernable passions, are not uneducated. On the contrary, they may have been highly educated. But crimes of this kind, which never will be entirely eradicated—except in Utopia, or during the Millennium—do not amount to one-tenth of the offences upon which Law and Justice have every day to adjudicate. Nine-tenths of the criminals who plague and puzzle Society are rendered criminal by the combined operation of extreme poverty and extreme ignorance; and poverty and ignorance are so intimately associated that they continually act and react upon each other. If we take any thousand of the young and middle-aged criminals who fill our gaols for a season, and are periodically let loose, either with or without tickets of leave, to prey upon the public as pickpockets, housebreakers, garotters, or footpads, we shall find—whatever may be the amount of education received by the criminals who have moved in a higher sphere of society, and who have become forgers, embezzlers, and defaulters—that not one in ten has received more than the mere rudiments of learning, and that one-half or two-thirds are but little removed from the condition of savages. If there be a difference, it is, perhaps, that they have all the vices of civilisation superadded to the peculiar vices of a lower state of society. Among this class of criminals, when full grown, there is but rarely any reformation. But if taken young—if cared for in the tender years of their infancy—if instructed at the charge of the State—if made to know and to feel, as they advance into adolescence, that it is as much the right of every child born on the soil of Great Britain to receive instruction as it is the right of a man to his own property, of a Peer to sit in Parliament, or of the Queen to wear her crown, the next generation would not present us with more than one or two hundred criminals for every thousand which now afflict us. It is not so much the abstract question of secondary punishment that puzzles our Juries, our Judges, and our Lawgivers, as the increasing number of our criminals. It is this growing nuisance which renders the subject so difficult. If we succeed in diminishing crime one-half by means of a well-devised and complete scheme of National Education, statesmanship and philanthropy will be able to deal more easily and more successfully with the remainder. In that event, if our colonies will not receive our criminals, we shall not be so much distressed at the necessity of keeping them at home. Having tried Prevention, and found it, to some extent, successful, we shall debate with quieter consciences and cleaner hands the great question of Punishment.

The existing generation of criminals, who cannot find employ-



BASSADORE, ON THE ISLAND OF KISHM, IN THE PERSIAN GULF.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

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ment, even if disposed to reform, either from the loss of character or from the difficulty or impossibility of conforming to the habits of an industrious and sober life, must, of course, be dealt with. They cannot be hanged. It is possible that they must not be transported. It is very doubtful whether they can be reformed. But is it impossible that they should be punished and yet usefully employed? Are there no great public and unremunerative works which a great nation might undertake, so as to get hard work, if nothing else, out of the men whom it is compelled to feed and to look after? We think that there are; and that the large sums expended in prisons and reformatories might find their way to the reclamation of counties from the sea—to the construction of harbours of refuge—to the embankment of the coast—and even to the embellishment of the great towns and cities of which these successive crops of criminals have been for years the burden as well as the reproach.

THE WAR WITH PERSIA.

BASSADORE, ON THE ISLAND OF KISHIM, IN THE PERSIAN GULF.

THE view of Bassadore engraved upon the preceding page is taken from a sketch by an officer of the East India Company's brig-of-war *Euphrates*—one of the expeditionary squadron. The small town of Bassadore, which does not contain above 200 houses, was presented some years since to the Indian Government by the Imaum of Muscat, for the purpose of forming a dépôt for their vessels of war cruising in the Persian Gulf. It is situated on one of the extreme points of the Island of Kishim, and has been selected as the rendezvous for the fleet in the operations against the Shah. The inhabitants support themselves by fishing and furnishing supplies to the vessels of the Indian navy. Formerly the Commodore and the senior officers of the Gulf fleet resided here, in the house on the point to the right of the sketch; but they are now more comfortably stationed at Bushire, and the house at Bassadore has gone to ruin. Every visitor to Bassadore for the last thirty years will remember the generous hospitality of Khadada, the provision-contractor to the fleet. His house is shown on the extreme left. There the old Persian sits and smokes his kaliune, shaking his head, and repressing a smile at the report of the immense wealth which he has industriously accumulated. The Indian Government have, at Bassadore, hospitals, a storehouse for their naval armament, and a coal dépôt. The port has good anchorage for the largest vessels, and is perfectly sheltered from the north-west winds, which blow with great violence during the winter months. The three straight-topped hills in the middle distance are called the Hummocks, and are the marks for the anchorage. To the extreme right is a guide for vessels making the port to avoid the sunken rocks and shoals. The sketch shows the brig-of-war *Euphrates* shifting her anchorage, and by the side is one of the buggalows which trade between Bombay and the Persian Gulf.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

THE PARIS CONFERENCE.—THE FRONTIER SETTLED AT LAST.

It appears from a notice in the *Moniteur* of Wednesday last that the Conference has signed a protocol putting an end to the difficulties caused by the conduct of Russia with reference to the Isle of Serpents and the frontier. According to that official organ the Conference has, by unanimous agreement, decided that the frontier shall follow the valley of Trajan up the River Yalpuch, leaving Tiglorad and Toback to Moldavia; Russia retaining Komrat upon the right bank, with 330 wersts of territory.

The Isle of Serpents is to be considered as part of the mouths of the Danube.

The Conference recognise that it was the intention of the Congress, by Article 21, to re-establish the territories west of the new boundaries in their former situation; and, in order to conform to the intentions of the negotiators of peace, it has decided that these territories shall be annexed to Moldavia, with the exception of Dolk, on the Danube, which will revert to Turkey. The Conference has decided, moreover, that the boundaries shall be settled and take effect by the 30th March at the latest, and that at the same date the Austrian troops and the British fleet shall have evacuated the Danubian Principalities and the interior waters of Turkey. The Commission of the Principalities will then be able to enter those provinces, and proceed to the execution of its mission. At the conclusion of its labours the Commission will report to the Conference, which will reassemble according to the terms of Article 25, in order to settle by a convention the final agreement between the contracting parties as to the organisation of the Principalities.

The following explanation of the steps which have led to the amicable arrangement is given by the Vienna correspondent of the *Times*:—

During many weeks there was reason to fear that Russia would be supported by the French Government in her attempt to avoid fulfilling the engagements which she entered into on the 30th of March, but the reclamations of the British and Austrian Governments roused the Emperor Napoleon from a temporary lethargy, and he himself took the matter in hand. On examining the map used at the Conference Louis Napoleon at once saw that his Minister for Foreign Affairs had exhibited an undue bias in favour of Russia, and Count Walewski was in imminent danger of being dismissed. From the moment that the Emperor gave his attention to the frontier question all collusion became impossible, and it was therefore soon settled that New Bolgrad should not under any circumstances be permitted to remain in the hands of Russia. Unfortunately, however, Messrs. de Walewski and de Morny had contracted certain moral engagements with Russia, and England and Austria were urged to consent that a part of the boundary line should be formed by a tributary of the Yalpuch instead of the main river of that name. It was at first proposed by France that the territory between the two rivers should be left in the hands of Russia as a compensation for New Bolgrad, but England and Austria positively declared that they would never consent to such an arrangement. After long and wearisome discussions, the French Government proposed that Russia should cede Old Bolgrad (Taback), as well as New Bolgrad, to Moldavia, and the Isle of Serpents and the Delta of the Danube to the Porte. As Moldavia had no claim to Old Bolgrad, and the Paris Conference had entirely lost sight of the Isle of Serpents, it was but just that some compensation should be made to Russia for the cession of those places; and it was therefore agreed that her indemnification should be that piece of land lying between the Yalpuch and its above-mentioned tributary. At first Russia was unwilling to consent to the arrangement, but the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, being strongly urged by Lord Cowley and Baron Hübner, gave Count Kisseleff to understand that there was no chance whatever that Russia would obtain more favourable conditions. That Count Kisseleff accepted the propositions of the Allies on Saturday, the 27th ult., you learnt by my telegraphic despatch of the following day. The date on which M. de Kisseleff was informed by his Government that it approved of what had been done at Paris is not known here.

PRUSSIA AND SWITZERLAND.

The Neufchâtel question still remains in the same state, but there is an impression abroad that an arrangement is to take place. There is said to be a slight shade of difference between the English and French Governments on the manner in which the liberation of the prisoners is to take place. The King of Prussia, it is said, is perfectly willing to renounce his rights to Neufchâtel; but he is unwilling to have the appearance of purchasing the release of the prisoners by the renunciation. This is now the chief difficulty. The Swiss Confederation, on their side, think that their *amour propre* also ought to be taken into account. It is, perhaps, on this point that the difference exists between the two Governments. It is not possible that for a mere matter of *amour propre* the contending parties will hold out much longer. In official quarters the question is considered as all but settled. On the strength of information from Paris, the order for corps of observation on the Baden and Wurtemberg frontiers has been suspended, which shows that there is no apprehension of the passage of Prussian troops through these States.

The only reference made to the Swiss affair by the Prince of Prussia in the various speeches he made on the occasion of his jubilee last week, occurred in his answer to the deputation of the House of Deputies. To them he said:—

We stand on the eve of great and grave events. It is to be expected that his Majesty the King will shortly have occasion to summon a portion of the army to arms, and every one I know for certain will obey the summons of his King with readiness and joy.

At taking leave of the garrison of Coblentz, previously to coming to Berlin, the Prince drew the attention of the officers assembled on parade to the grave position in which Prussia is: he congratulated those troops who were destined to be put in motion on their important mission, and promised them in advance the sympathies of all who remained behind to follow them in the paths they would tread while struggling for the King's honour and rights. As he saw before him various detachments from troops that had fought with bravery and devotion under his own eyes, he would expect them to exhibit again the same soldierly virtues, and so again inseparably attach victory to the Prussian colours.

In Switzerland the preparations for war are going forward with unabated zeal. General Dufour has organised a numerous staff. On his application, the Federal Council has given orders to place on a war footing eighteen additional battalions of infantry, as well as nine companies of carbineers, cavalry, and artillery.

AMERICA.

By the Royal mail steam-ship *Africa*, which arrived at Liverpool on Sunday, we have intelligence from New York to the 24th ult. The political news is not of much importance.

On Tuesday, 23rd, the Senate debated, without coming to any conclusion, the bill for the settlement of the claims of the officers of the revolution. The House passed the Indian, Pension, and West Point Academy bills.

A despatch from Washington, to the *New York Herald*, states that orders have been sent to the Government officers to stop all shipments of men, arms, and provisions to General Walker.

The Nicaragua Transit Company, an American steam-line, whose business Walker broke up for non-payment of moneys alleged to be due to Nicaragua, have prevailed upon the President to issue writs for the arrest of Walker (provided he can be found within the limits of the United States), as also Charles Morgan, formerly agent of the company, and C. K. Garrison, also a former agent; each of whom is charged with joining Walker in the breaking up of the line. The total damages sustained by the company are put down at 2,000,000 dollars, but it is extremely doubtful if they ever recover a farthing of it.

The last advices represent Walker as in almost a hopeless condition—cut off from his ragged and half-starved army, and with the chances of escape from the allies of Central America ten to one against him. It may be, however, that his very desperation will nerve him to hold on, in hopes of speedy aid; and if so, it is not unlikely that the tragedy may be postponed for a few months longer. The agent of Walker, who was in Washington endeavouring to raise a loan of half a million dollars, disappeared suddenly on hearing of the reverses of his master.

The way in which the American Government has chopped and changed sides on the Nicaraguan question is not very creditable to President Pierce and his colleagues. At one time Walker's rule is recognised, his Minister received, and hundreds of ardent adventurers are duped into his ranks. At another the American Minister to Nicaragua is recalled, Walker's Minister given the cold shoulder to, and orders are issued to seize all vessels that attempt to carry him recruits, arms, or provisions. The only reason that can be assigned for this wretched shuffling is, that the President and Cabinet are at loggerheads upon the subject; and, according as each faction triumphs, just so does the Central American wheel revolve. The truth is that the present Administration would like to go out of power with the star of Nicaragua firmly planted in the American constellation. General Pierce would like this as his triumph, and have it so handed down to posterity. When all was smooth sailing, therefore, when Walker's prospects were unmistakably bright, the Administration (or a majority at least) espoused his cause: but when dark clouds gathered over the future, and the hopes of the Administration were blasted, then it tacked about and denounced both Walker and his project.

The negro insurrection excitement still continues. A despatch from Louisville of the 20th of December says:—"The *Russellville Herald* of Wednesday last says that the negro insurrection excitement exists in the neighbourhood of Volney and Gordonsville. A number of negroes had been arrested; a negro at one of the ironworks in Tennessee said he knew all about the plot, but would die before he would tell. He thereupon received 750 lashes, from which he died. At Cadiz, Trig county, Kentucky, a free negro was hung after being tried by a Vigilance Committee. There are a number more in gaol, some of whom will be hung. Judge Cook has called a meeting of the Court for Christmas-day. Excitement runs very high." A distinguished senator in Congress, from Tennessee, has lost 10,000 dollars by the panic, nine of his slaves having been hung for supposed complicity in the imagined insurrection. If an insurrection should finally break out it will be caused more by the rigorous measures of late adopted by the slaveowners than from any preconcerted action on the part of the slaves.

There has been very severe weather of late, and the snow was lying on the ground to the depth of several inches. During a recent storm the fine packet-ship *New York*, and the barque *Tasso*, were lost on the Jersey coast. Seven persons perished by the wreck of the latter, and, it is said that numbers of the 300 saved from the packet-ship will die from the sufferings they experienced from cold and hunger. On the same evening that these sad tidings were received the splendid steamship *Knoxville*, of the New York and Savannah line, took fire at her wharf, and was burnt to the water's edge.

AUSTRALIA—ARRIVAL OF THE "MONTMORENCY."

On Monday last the Royal mail-ship *Montmorency* arrived off the south coast of Ireland, with dates from Melbourne to the 15th of October, Sydney to the 13th, and Adelaide to the 12th. She brought a valuable cargo of merchandise, a fair complement of passengers, and 100,000 oz of gold, valued at £400,000.

The receipts of gold by gold escort for the week previous to the sailing of the *Montmorency* were very large; but there was no change in the value of the precious metal at Melbourne.

Relative to the proposed separation of Moreton Bay, the following announcement appeared recently in the *Sydney Morning Herald*:—"We understand that private despatches have been received by the Governor-General announcing the intention of her Majesty's Government to detach the Moreton Bay district from the colony of New South Wales, and erect it forthwith into a separate colony. What boundary line is proposed to separate the two colonies, or whether it has been fixed, we are unable to say."

The Rocky River gold-fields are beginning to yield a proportionate amount of gold to the people located there. The first northern escort arrived at Maitland on the 21st of September, bringing down 3500 ounces of gold from the Rocky River.

The report of the Commissioners of National Education for the year 1855 has just been published. There are fifty-one schools established upon this system in New South Wales.

A fine sample of black-lead ore has been discovered on the south side of Mount Kembla, about six miles from Wollongon, by Mr. Jekyl. It is expected that this will become an article of considerable export, as it may be procured in large quantities.

It is reported that coal has been discovered near Yankalilla, and that specimens are on their way to Adelaide.

THE OPIUM TRADE IN CHINA.

The long-pending negotiation, between the Chinese authorities and opium-dealers, respecting a duty on the drug, has resulted in an agreement that it shall be admitted into this port (Shanghae) at 20 dollars per chest—equal at the present price of dollars to 23 taels of sycee.—*North China Herald, Oct. 25.*

MURDER OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF PARIS.

Great excitement was created in Paris last Saturday evening by the rumour that the Archbishop of Paris had been assassinated by a priest, while officiating in the church of St. Etienne-du-Mont. It appears that the Archbishop had gone to the church, according to announcement, to preside over the opening of the annual *neuvaine* in honour of the saint who is patroness of the city of Paris. After vespers, and after a sermon preached by Mgr. Lacarrière, Bishop of La Basse-Terre, a procession was formed and paraded round the church in the customary way, the Archbishop in his robes walking at the head of the lady patronesses of Ste. Geneviève. Just as the Archbishop arrived opposite the outer door and was about to turn up the nave, a man advanced towards him from the crowd of spectators, and, removing the prelate's cope with his left hand, plunged with great force with his right hand a large Catalan knife into the prelate's breast, near the heart, exclaiming as he did so, "Down with the goddess!" (A bas la déesse.) The Archbishop fell back two steps, cried out "Ah, le malheureux!" staggered, and fell into the arms of the priests who surrounded him. The wounded prelate moaned two or three times, as if in great suffering, and was the moment after bathed in the blood which flowed from the wound. He was immediately conveyed into the vestry and medical assistance sent for; but all human aid was found to be useless, and he expired almost immediately. The assassin, a young man of about thirty years of age, dressed in dark-coloured clothes, made no attempt to escape, and was immediately seized; he had at the moment the knife, from which blood was dropping, still in his hand.

He was conveyed to the mairie of the 12th arrondissement, and M. Moignon, substitute of the Procureur Imperial, and M. Treilhard, examining magistrate, were immediately summoned, and commenced an interrogatory of the assassin. M. Cordouin, Procureur Imperial, and M. Pietri, Prefect of Police, subsequently interrogated him also. From what he said it appears that he is a priest of the diocese of Meaux, named Verges. He had been four or five times interdicted for misconduct, and some months back was again suspended for having preached against the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. In November last he displayed great zeal in defending a woman who was tried at Melun for poisoning her husband, and though she was convicted of the crime, and condemned to hard labour for life, he printed a pamphlet declaring that she was innocent, and casting the grossest imputations on the judges and the public prosecutor. The pamphlet was seized by the authorities before it could be distributed, and it caused a new complaint against him to be made to his bishop. A little later he uttered menaces against a respected clergyman of the diocese of Paris who had done him many kindnesses; and the clergyman deemed it necessary to make representation to the police. On the 24th of December the man came to Paris, and took up his residence at an hotel, No. 2, Rue Racine. He was accustomed to pass days in the public libraries; and even on Saturday he went to one as usual. He endeavoured to obtain an appointment in the diocese of Paris, but it was notified to him that the Archbishop would not grant him one. On hearing that he appears to have projected the death of the prelate, and he purchased for the purpose a knife at the shop of a cutler in the Rue Dauphine. After he had stated the previous facts he was asked if he had stabbed the Archbishop more than once? and he answered, "No; I only gave him one stab, for I struck in the heart, and knew the blow was mortal." "Why," he wasasked, "did you cry 'Down with the goddess!' when you struck the fatal blow?" "Because I do not believe in the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, against which I have preached from the pulpit; and I wish to protest once more against the impious doctrine." "Why did you commit so grave a crime?" "Because I was interdicted, and because the Archbishop had declared that the interdiction would not be removed." He then added, after a pause, "A priest cannot be allowed to die of hunger." He admitted that he had gone to the church with the premeditated intention of killing the Archbishop; and he then several times cried, with some violence, "No goddess! no goddess!" The assassin replied to the questions put to him with calmness, and only displayed agitation when he referred to the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception. His features are full of expression. In the evening he was conveyed to the conciergerie, and a turnkey was placed with him in his cell

THE SAWARD FORGERY GANG.

If 1856 is to be remembered as the year of gigantic frauds, 1857 threatens to be no less celebrated in that department of crime. Hardly has the new year begun than we are called upon to chronicle the exploits of a gang of forgers in the City, who seem to have displayed an amount of skill and daring which has seldom been equalled in that line of business. "James Townshend Saward, Esq., Barrister-at-law and Special Pleader, of the Inner Temple and the Home Circuit"—as he figures in the Law List of the present year—is the principal culprit; and a certain James Anderson appears to have acted as junior partner. From the evidence given by Henry Atwell, a convict under sentence of transportation for life, we learn the mode in which the firm carried on business on their own account. About twelve months ago Atwell, who had obtained a number of blank cheques, and some paid cheques, upon Barclay and Co., in a house which he had entered without permission, mentioned the fact to a person named Saunders, in the Old Kent-road, and was introduced by him to Saward, who said he thought he could make some money out of them by filling up the blanks and sending them to the bankers. He said he had a person he called "the Sender," whom he would introduce to Atwell, and that that person would send them to the bank and get them cashed. Atwell accordingly left the cheques, written and blank, in Saward's possession; and, in the course of a few days, he saw him again in the presence of Anderson and two other persons, in the New-street, Spitalfields, in the neighbourhood of the church. On meeting on that occasion Saward returned to him three filled-up cheques which he had previously given to him—two which had been blank, but which were now filled up. One was dated Jan. 9, 1856, for £46 15s. 6d., purporting to be drawn by J. B. Doe, jun., the person from whom the blank cheques had been stolen, and the second dated Jan. 10, 1856, for £95 17s. 6d., purporting to be drawn by the same gentleman. Saward, Anderson, and Atwell then went to a private house in Leman-street, where Anderson had taken a room as a place from which the cheque could be sent. Anderson went in while Saward and Atwell waited outside. Soon after a man went into the house in Leman-street, and in a few minutes came out and went to Barclay's, where Atwell followed him and saw the money paid for the cheque dated January 9. The man, who was closely watched by Atwell, then went back to Leman-street, and gave the money to Anderson. The various members of the gang then walked off to the Eastern Counties Railway, where Anderson had another young man in waiting, whom he sent with the second cheque, for £95 17s. 6d. Here Atwell was again employed as watcher. He followed the young man to the bank, saw the money paid, and kept his eye upon the messenger, it being his duty to see that all was right. On this occasion the young man who got the money was going over London-bridge, instead of going back to the railway. Atwell touched him on the shoulder and asked him whether he was not going the wrong way (Laughter). He said he was only going to his last employer's to ask if Anderson had sent for his character. Atwell said to him, "There is a gentleman waiting for you at the railway. He has sent me for you, as he has a very particular way of trying his servants before he employs them." They then went back together to the railway. The whole of the gang, five in number, then went into a public-house and divided the money. This appears to have been the regular mode in which the firm transacted business. After having completed the forgery of one or more cheques, they hired furnished apartments for a week, then went out into the highways to pick up some unsuspecting youth to act as bearer of the cheques to the banks, giving him directions to bring back the proceeds to the newly-hired rooms, which were of course immediately evacuated when the object of their hirers had been thus accomplished. The gentleman principally engaged in the hiring department appears to have been Mr. Anderson, who rejoiced in an infinite assortment of wigs and whiskers, and was in the weekly practice of "immasking his noted outer garments" in some new disguise. It was in the department of some other gentleman of the firm to act as follower to the bearer of the cheque. The duty of this follower was to enter the bank "promiscuously" at the same time as the extemporised messenger, and to watch operations at the counter; in case of failure to decamp instantly, in order to warn the associates who were in waiting; or, in case of success, to follow the messenger. In the above instances Atwell acted as watcher. One of the master devices of Mr. Saward appears to have been his device for extorting a signature from a shrewd practitioner of the law. A gentleman connected with the firm had "accidentally found in" the pockets of Mr. Turner, a solicitor, a quantity of blank draughts on Gosling and Co. The point was to get Turner to fill up a cheque, in order that these blanks might be turned by the forger's craft into gold. The contrivance adopted was this:—The name of Hesp was assumed for the nonce by one of the confederates, and attached to an I O U for some thirty odd pounds. Mr. Atwell took this I O U to Mr. Turner's offices, directing him to write a lawyer's letter for the amount. The requisite sum was meanwhile furnished to the *soi-disant* Hesp, the lawyer's letter was sent to the indicated address, and in due course the £30, which had been lodged for the purpose, was paid into the lawyer's office. In a day or two Atwell called there to receive it, trusting that Mr. Turner would write a cheque for the amount. So ingenious was the villany that Atwell had dealt with Mr. Turner under the name of Mr. W. Hunter, in order that Mr. Turner, by making the cheque payable in that name, might betray the manner in which he wrote "Hun," so as the better to enable the forgers to fill up the blank cheques for hundreds. All this ingenuity, however, was on this first occasion thrown away. To the great disgust of Mr. Atwell, the clerk of Mr. Turner simply paid him over the hard cash; and the whole process had to be repeated again, with a second I O U for a larger sum, lodged in the same way and taken out by the same party. This second time the ruse succeeded, and the blank draughts on "Goslings" were filled up to a very large amount.

The charges against Saward and Anderson were heard at the Mansion-house on Saturday, and again on Wednesday last. On both occasions the court was crowded to excess. The examination has been again adjourned till next Wednesday.

THE LATE GALES.—The losses at sea have been very great. Between Flamborough Head and the mouth of the Tyne nearly forty vessels are said to have been wrecked. In several instances the vessel went down with all hands. In the English Channel the weather was equally boisterous. The screw-steamer *Dunaskin*, to Bristol from Lisbon, was lost, near Penzance, with a crew of eleven men. The steam-packet *Violet*, which left Ostend in a fearful storm on Monday night, was wrecked on the Goodwin Sands on Tuesday. Three bodies were picked up, lashed to a life-buoy, not far from the wreck. The *Northern Belle*, of 1100 tons, from New York to Liverpool, was wrecked, near Kingsgate, on Monday. The *Margaret*, a Margate lugger, which ventured near to render assistance, was struck by a heavy sea, and went down with all hands on board—twelve to fifteen in number. By the heroic efforts of the Broadstairs boatmen the whole of the crew of the American vessel were saved. The Point of Air life-boat was lost off the Welsh coast during the storm, with thirteen hands on board.

The Austrian Commandant in Parma has received orders to evacuate that duchy as soon as the Duchess Regent shall call on him to do so. The Austrians have occupied Parma since 1849.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE assassination of the Archbishop of Paris, M. Sibour, has naturally excited a European sensation. The late Prelate, an Ultra montanist of the highest school, and in so far an enemy to the Church of France, was an amiable and kindhearted man, and much affection was felt for him, personally, by those who had the opportunity of knowing him well. He died in sacerdotal garb, and while taking part in one of the processions of the Church. The assassin is a priest named Vergès, who is represented as a man of turbulence and insubordination, but in regard to whom closer and unbiassed observation might lead an investigation to a deduction somewhat different from that of the Roman Catholic journalists who have judged him. That his mind is disturbed there can be no doubt, but it may appear that a strong conviction that, in compliance with his duty as a priest bound by vows, he owed allegiance to the last invented and outrageous dogma of the Immaculate Conception (in which he disbelieved) was the first disturbing cause; after which he brought his warped intellect to consider that, as his Church punishes error by force, so force might lawfully be used to repress error in her ministers. The unhappy madman's cry, as he struck down the hierarch who had suspended him for not preaching the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, was "No goddesses!" He will, in all probability, be put to death; but the question what caused his insanity will remain for solution, and has a significance, inasmuch as the element to which we have adverted may be working in thousands of other Roman Catholic minds upon which the Papal fable has been thrust.

The Peace Conferences have brought the questions between the Great Powers to a close; that is to say, Russia is much better off than she was at the signing of the Treaty of Paris, and receives a large tract of territory as a reward for now agreeing to do what she had already agreed to do, but shirked from doing. Her diplomatists have served her well—and so have ours. For the rest, she is particularly urgent that England and Austria should withdraw, the one her fleet, the other her army; and that a day should be fixed for this being done; but both Powers—with the utmost civility, and while describing their desire to evacuate sea and land to be as great as Russia's that they should do so—have replied that "as soon as possible" are words of sufficient precision for fixing the withdrawal of forces which are a standing hint to Russia that the treaty, such as it is, must be observed for the present.

The Canton bombardment has been variously treated by our public writers. Practical people, wedded neither to party nor fanaticism, take the view which we ventured to express last week, and regard the blow as a painful necessity. And to this conviction most people will have to come round in six months. But the Manchester folks and the Ultra-Conservatives raise a clamour, on different grounds. The former talk maudlin platitudes about cruelty and massacre, and the wickedness of war, as if it were not for the protection of trade, their idol, that nearly all English war is made. The Conservatives see matter for an attack upon the Government, and are, accordingly, lost in horror at a deed ten times worse than Sinope; and we should really be shocked to transfer to our columns the parallel which the Evangelical *Herald* is profane enough to draw between the battering down the vacated houses of some insolent barbarians and the most awful sacrifice and imprecation recorded in the Christian Scripture. Who is to lead the attack when Parliament meets, and which of the *Herald's* "great and good men" is to show that Admiral Seymour resembles Pontius Pilate, and that the people of England are like the Jews of Jerusalem? Sir Robert Peel has proclaimed himself unlucky in discovering texts, and, besides, he is just now in the Ministry, or his peculiar eloquence would be more worthy of such a line of argument than that of any other ornament of the Legislature.

We send a Napier to Washington, as Ambassador to the Court of President Buchanan. Lord Napier is a practised diplomatist, and a man of spirit and ability, and the appointment is in every way respectful to the Americans. We do not conceive that he will be the less welcome to the Republicans because he has chances to have a title. We observe that some of the admirers of General Walker (whose fortunes are again doubtful) have been denouncing France and England for their hostility to his designs, and have characterised the English as a nation of filibusters—brave ones, they admit—who ought to have some fellow-feeling for a hero in their own line.

Why should it have been deemed necessary to announce in an official manner that the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert inherits no property in Odessa, upon the death of Prince Woronzow, we know not, unless there be truth in the report to which we alluded last week in reference to contemplated changes in the War-office. It may be well that the Minister of War should be cleared in the eyes and minds of the public of any suspicion of interest in Russia otherwise we do not know what business the public has with the private affairs of a most amiable and excellent gentleman, to whom, little as he needs it all would, however, be glad to hear that any accession of good fortune had occurred.

The Swiss difficulty may be said to be already patched up, and the absurd claim of the King of Prussia will not be allowed to disturb the peace of Europe, which may now, we presume, be regarded as perfect. The King of Greece has made a speech, in which he has been obliged to make amusingly sulky references to the Powers that created his kingdom, and to their condescension, and his hope soon to get rid of their armies. He spoke of the suppression of brigandage; and about the time his Majesty was delivering his congratulations an eminent citizen was actually being carried away by brigands, and this from no remote and lonely spot, but from the neighbourhood of a military station. The King of Naples has had another fright—one of his vessels having blown up, "or been blown up," and all on board killed. This looks like a companion demonstration] to the explosion of the magazine the other day.

The terrible gales of the last week have done appalling mischief all round the coast. The tale of casualties is very frightful. Among its more prominent features are the loss of the Ostend packet *Violet*, with all hands, and the destruction of a life-boat and the drowning of all its brave crew. If Christmas charity] have not subsided, a national subscription for those whose sorrows can be aided by money would be a fitting proof that all the glowing sentiments habitually recorded at this season are not mere words.

ROYAL VISIT TO THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.—On Friday (last week) H.R.H. Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, honoured the Photographic Exhibition in Pall-mall with a visit, previous to the public opening on Saturday. The Royal party were attended by Colonel Seymour, and were received at the gallery by the council of the Photographic Society. The walls and screens are this year hung with several hundreds of photographs displaying the improvements recently made in this interesting art, both as regards scenery and portraiture. Without going into particulars, it may be mentioned that conspicuous in the gallery are the tables of stereoscopic pictures shown by Messrs. Bland and Long, Mr. Williams, and the Stereoscopic Company; also the portraits by Mr. Mayall, of Regent-street, as they include some interesting pictures of the Royal Family of Oude, the Bench of Bishops, and several well-known statesmen.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF PARIS.

MONSEIGNEUR MARIE DOMINIQUE AUGUSTUS SIBOUR, Archbishop of Paris, was born in 1792. He had taken holy orders early in life, and was a clergyman much respected and loved for his piety and benevolence. Though inclined to the Liberal side in politics, he meddled but little in public affairs. His activity in procuring charities, and in aiding the poor, first brought him into notice. He was, in 1840, consecrated Bishop of Digne, in the department of the Basses Alpes in Provence, and was translated to the Archiepiscopal see of Paris on the 10th of August, 1848. Mgr. Sibour evinced, in the administration of the diocese of Paris, all the foresight and all the sagacity of his mind. He applied himself to the development of religious studies in his diocese; animated the zeal of the ecclesiastical school of the Carmes; established public conferences; and, in order to secure to the sacred ministry persons the most worthy, he ordered that, during the first five years of the priesthood, examinations should be gone through by the young priests on all matters important for them to be acquainted with. Mgr. Sibour endeavoured also successfully to increase the number of churches in the populous quarters of Paris. His death by the hand of an assassin—the fanatic, and, it is to be hoped, lunatic Vergès—occurred in the church of St. Etienne du Mont, Paris, on the 3rd inst.

JOSEPH BROTHERTON, ESQ., M.P.

JOSEPH BROTHERTON, Esq., the excellent and universally respected M.P. for Salford for now nearly a quarter of a century, was the architect of his own position and fortune. He was a successful cotton and silk manufacturer, from which business, after making an independence, he retired some years ago. Mr. Brotherton was first returned to Parliament for the borough of Salford, as its first member, in 1832. In the House he showed himself ever a consistent and firm advocate of Liberal opinions; all progressive measures, and especially all of a benevolent or educational character, had his earnest and stanch support. He carried his love of reform even to amending the mode of carrying on business in Parliament. Every one knows how strenuous were his efforts to shorten the sittings of the Commons after midnight. In his attendance upon his Parliamentary duties Mr. Brotherton was most assiduous. Rarely was the Speaker in the chair and Mr. Brotherton absent; and it was not an unfrequent occurrence for the Speaker to call upon the hon. member to move the adjournment of the House, when the Secretary to the Treasury had retired. Mr. Brotherton was Chairman of the Private Bill Committee. He took so lively an interest in the business arrangements of the House of Commons that it was his invariable custom at the close of each Session to move for a series of returns showing the progress of public and private business, the number and duration of sittings, and the number of divisions. Though representing a manufacturing constituency, he was a warm advocate, with Lord Ashley (now Lord Shaftesbury) and the late Mr. Fielden, of the Ten Hours Bill, and was accustomed to deduce arguments in its favour from his own career. Mr. Brotherton was, in his way of living, a strict vegetarian and abstainer from all spirituous liquors and was an active supporter of those principles. In private as in public life he was a most worthy and amiable man, and was much esteemed and beloved by all who knew him. Mr. Brotherton, to the general regret of his friends and the public, died suddenly on the 7th inst., whilst travelling in an omnibus from his residence, Rosehill, at Pendleton, into Manchester. He leaves a family. Some of his connections, like himself, have attained high public positions. His brother is Lieut.-General Sir Thomas William Brotherton, K.C.B.; and his son, James Brotherton, Esq., a barrister of the Middle Temple, is Receiver-General of the Inland Revenue.

A portrait of Mr. Brotherton is engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, Vol. VIII., p. 309.

MR. JOHN BRITTON.

JOHN BRITTON, the distinguished writer on architectural and archæological subjects, whose life was an admirable illustration "of what," to use his own words, "may be effected by zeal and industry with moderate talents, and without academic learning," was born on the 7th July, 1771, at Kington St. Michael, near Chippenham, in Wiltshire, where his father was a baker, maltster, shopkeeper, and small farmer. He received some slight elementary instruction in the village school; but, his parents dying early, he went to London to an uncle who apprenticed him as cellarman to Mr. Mendham, wine-merchant, of the Jerusalem Tavern, Clerkenwell-green. Here he was wont to devote as much time as he could to visiting old book stalls, and making small purchases; but, according to his own account, all the reading he could indulge in, during his apprenticeship, was by candlelight, in the cellar, and at occasional intervals only, not of leisure, but abstracted from his regular duty. His apprenticeship over, he found himself without connexions or any definite pursuit. The vicissitudes, privations, and hardships which he experienced during the next seven years were severe. Living in obscure lodgings at eightenpence per week, he still indulged in study, and often read in bed during the winter evenings, being unable to afford a fire. He tried to obtain a subsistence in the humbler walks of literature; such even as in the compilation of street ballads and songs. A more ambitious and successful effort in the shape of a book, entitled "An Account of the Surprising Adventures of Pizarro," a hero then made popular by Kotzebue and Sheridan, brought Britton into a somewhat better position, and resulted in an acquaintance with Mr. Wheble, the publisher of the *Sporting Magazine*, who employed him to compile a work in contemplation, called the "Beauties of Wiltshire." This Britton undertook in conjunction with a young friend better educated than himself, named Brayley. The "Beauties of Wiltshire," produced under their joint labours, proved remarkably prosperous, and was followed by the "Beauties of Bedfordshire" and other counties. Then came Mr. Britton's great work, the "Architectural Antiquities of England," which established his reputation and secured him future occupation and independence. His subsequent publications were very numerous, and many of them were very highly esteemed. Among these were his "Cathedral Antiquities of England," his "Architectural Antiquities of Normandy," his "Illustrations of Fonthill Abbey," and his "Dictionary of the Architecture and Archæology of the Middle Ages." Mr. Britton produced some works on general subjects: among them were a "Memoir of John Aubrey," and an "Essay on the Authorship of the Letters of Junius," which included a Biography of Colonel Barré. In 1847 Mr. Britton retired from his active avocations, and confined himself to writing an autobiography, which was to be prepared and printed from funds provided as a testimonial to him by his friends, who had formed themselves into an association called the "Britton Club" for the purpose. Mr. Britton had expressed himself most anxious that he might live to the New Year's Day of 1857, to complete this Autobiography; and, singularly enough, he did live till just then; but, nevertheless, the book remains unfinished. He died on the 1st instant, at his residence, 17, Burton-street, Burton-crescent, much and deservedly lamented, after a long and honourable career, during which he did good and essential service in promoting and extending the study of British architecture and topography, and in improving the public taste and feeling for national antiquities.

DR. URE.

ANDREW URE, M.D., F.R.S., was born in Glasgow on the 18th of May, 1778. He studied at the University of Glasgow, and subsequently at that of Edinburgh. In the year 1806 he was appointed, on the resignation of Dr. Birkbeck, Andersonian Professor of Chemistry and Natural Philosophy. He was at this time engaged in the establishment of the Glasgow Observatory, where he resided for some time, and had a visit from the celebrated Sir W. Herschel. He was eloquent as a lecturer, and very successful in his class experiments. In 1818 he brought forward his "New Experimental Researches on some of the leading doctrines of Caloric," which essay was read before the Royal Society, and published in their *Transactions* for that year. In 1821 appeared the first edition of his well-known 'Dictionary of Chemistry," which procured him the friendship of Sir H. Davy, Dr. Wollaston, and Dr. E. D. Clarke. His other and subsequent works were his paper "On the Ultimate Analysis of Vegetable Substances," in the *Philosophical Transactions*; his "System of Geology;" his "Philosophy of Manufactures;" his book on the "Cotton Manufactures of Great Britain," in two volumes; and his "Dictionary of Arts, Manufactures, and Mines"—a production of immense labour and research, the last edition of which appeared in the year 1852. This Dictionary has been translated into the leading Continental languages. Dr. Ure was a sound chemical philosopher, and was no less remarkable for accuracy in chemical analysis. It has been asserted, indeed, by competent authority that none of his results have ever been upset. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society; one of the original Fellows of the Geological Society; and also belonged to the Astronomical Society, and to several scientific Continental societies. He resided in London since the year 1830. Dr. Ure died on the 2nd inst., at his house, 18, Upper Seymour-street, Portman-square.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

MR. HENRY CHAMBERLAIN, whose sudden death occurred on the 2nd inst., at Desford, near Leicester, in the 66th year of his age, was extensively known in the agricultural world, and had been for many years in high repute as a breeder and feeder of Hereford cattle and Leicester sheep. He was a very successful competitor at the Smithfield Club, having gained more prizes than almost any other man, and on two occasions he obtained a gold medal for his stock. He was also famed as a first-rate judge of cattle, in which capacity he often officiated at the Royal Agricultural Society's meetings, as well as at the shows at Birmingham, Yorkshire, and many other exhibitions. He only so recently as the last Smithfield Club meeting was instrumental in making improvements in the prize-sheet for next year. As a stanch supporter of agricultural improvements, and a worthy specimen of the yeomanry of England, Mr. Chamberlain will long be held in grateful remembrance.

SIGNOR CRIVELLI.

SIGNOR DOMENICO F. CRIVELLI came to England in the year 1817, with his father, who was engaged as the principal tenor at the King's Theatre. Since that time Signor Crivelli dedicated himself to the profession of teaching singing, in which capacity he acquired great repute, which he maintained up to his death. Since the foundation of the Royal Academy of Music, in 1823, he has been the principal professor of singing at that institution, and almost all our present singers have been his pupils. Signor Crivelli also wrote a method of singing, "L' Arte del Canto," which is considered the best work extant on the subject. The Signor died on the 31st ult., at his residence, 71, Upper Norton-street, Portland-place; he leaves behind him a fair professional name; he was beloved and esteemed by all who knew him.

WILLS AND CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.—The will of the Right Hon. Julia Anne Countess Dowager of Roden was proved under £4000.—Rear-Admiral Sir Henry Hart, K.C.H., £18,000. The Rev. W. H. Cooper, of Kemp Town, £25,000.—John Venn, Esq., of Highbury Park, £25,000.—Thomas Worthington, Esq., of Sharston Hall, Cheshire, £15,000 within the province of Canterbury, and has left some thousands to charitable institutions in Manchester.—John Collett, Esq., formerly M.P., £30,000, leaving £5000 at the discretion of his executors, to pay fines imposed upon poachers, and legacies to charities.—John Kenyon, Esq., F.R.G.S., F.G.S., of Devonshire-place, West Cowes, and Wimbledon, £180,000 within the province. The will, though short, contains numerous legacies to his literary friends, and one of large amount. Those not exceeding £5000 each are free of legacy duty. £5000 to the University College Hospital, Gower-street; to Robert Hawthorn, Esq., one of his executors, £20,000; and to James Booth, Esq., the other executor, £5000. He has also left the residue of his property equally between them.

COUNTRY NEWS.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE CAMBRIDGE OBSERVATORY, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 6, 1857.

Day.	Barometer at 9 A.M. 98 feet above level of the sea, corrected and reduced.	Attached Thermometer	Highest Temperature.	Lowest Temperature.	Mean.	Dry Bulb at 9 A.M.	Wet Bulb 9 A.M.	Direction of Wind.	Amount of Cloud (0–10)	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°			
Dec. 31	30·225	42·4	49·2	37·1	43 2	42·4	41·9	S.W.	8	0.000
Jan. 1	30·082	43·8	49·9	42·3	46·1	46·2	44·9	S.W.	10	0·040
,, 2	29·706	44·0	48·5	40·9	44·7	45·6	43·0	W.	7	0·063
,, 3	29·222	43·0	49·2	34·8	42·0	47·8	47·0	S.	10	0·204
,, 4	29·084	40·8	40·5	36·4	38·4	39·2	38·6	S.W.	10	0·077
,, 5	29·901	34·3	36·8	33·4	35·1	34·2	33·3	N.W.	5	0·017
,, 6	30·198	37·0	34·5	25·7	30 1	32·3	31·1	E.	10	0·000
Means	29·774	40·8	44.1	35·8	39·9	41·1	40·0			0·401

The range of temperature during the week was 24·2 deg.

The wind blew with great violence from the S. and S.W. on Jan. 3 and 4, and from the N.W. on the evening of the 5th.

Thin snow fell on the mornings of Jan. 5 and 6; and it rained very heavily on the evening of Jan. 3.

A lunar halo was visible on the night of Jan. 2.

The weather has been generally mild, but the sky much overcast; it was partially clear on the evenings of Jan. 2 and 5, and quite clear on the forenoon of Jan. 1.

On Dec. 28 the thermometer fell to 16·2 deg., which is the lowest tha has occurred during the present season. J. BREEN.

DECREASE IN LAW BUSINESS.—The *Munster News* complains of the great falling-off in law business in the south. In Dublin the business is looking up—decidedly more doing, and at advanced rates. The *News* says:—"The decline of all law business at quarter sessions has become quite notorious; but the decrease at quarter sessions has seldom perhaps been more remarkably exemplified than in the fact that the processes served for this session by one officer in this county are 36 only, whereas a few years back the numbers served by him at a similar period were nearly 2000. Before the famine he served 1800, and had 210 (civil bills) remaining. Since then, in consequence of the reduced population, the increased want of confidence, the increase of cash dealings, and perhaps the abatement of the spirit of litigation, the business has fallen to the number stated. What a falling-off here, my countrymen! and the worst, or best (which you please), of it is that the decadence is universal."

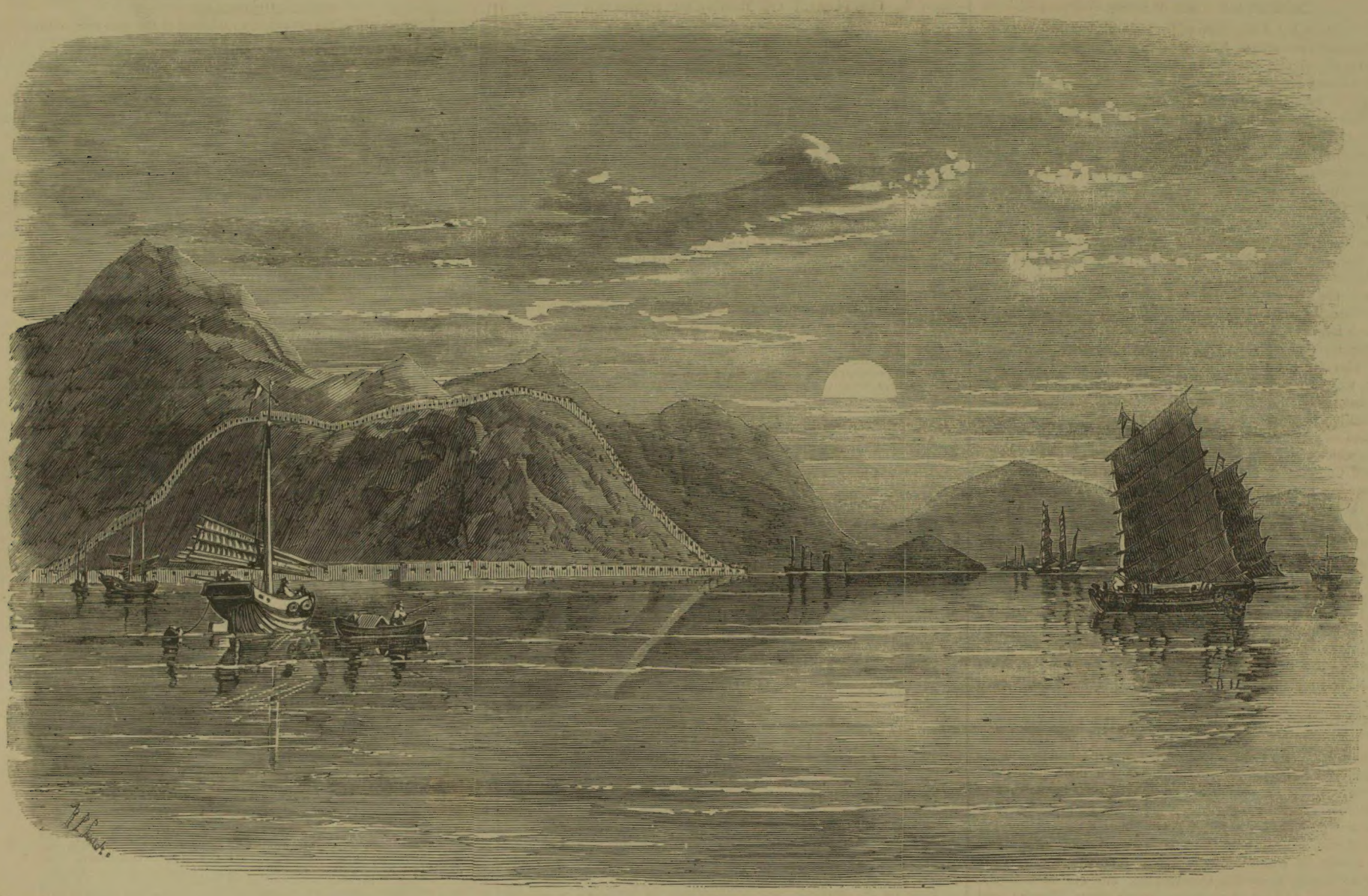
THE GRAVE OF KING RICHARD III.—A memorial has just been erected at Bow-bridge, Leicester, whereon it is recorded that near that spot lie the remains of King Richard III. It is a very handsome stone, set in the gable of one of the new buildings. The monument is in Ketton stone, designed by Messrs. Flint and Shenton, and executed in first-rate style by Mr. Broadbent, the work in each case being presented as a free gift.—*Leicester Journal.*

EMBEZZLEMENT BY A COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER AT LEEDS.—At the Leeds Court House, lately, a respectable-looking man, of middle age, named Wm. Sewell, was charged with embezzling £500, the property of his employer, Mr. Wm. Jowett Clough, corn-miller, Farnley, near Leeds. The prisoner, who is very respectably connected, has been in the service of Mr. Clough for a considerable period. Letters were read from the prisoner in which he admitted his deficiencies. The case was remanded. The prisoner's difficulties, it is said, have been caused by unsuccessful speculations in a great lottery at Frankfort-on-the-Maine.

"HANDSOMELY REWARDED!"—On New Year's Day a young woman named Elizabeth Bray, of 31, Fairfax-street, Hall-lane, Bowling, near Bradford, stumbled over a hard substance at the end of Ebor-street, Bradford, and, stooping, she picked up a bag full of money. She was returning from a New Year's pleasure party, and was accompanied by a young man named Abraham Ambler, who induced her to allow him to take charge of the bag and money, telling her that if she were silent she should have a share. He was allowed to depart with it; but, becoming uneasy at the circumstance, Elizabeth Bray communicated the fact of the matter to the authorities at the police-station, Bradford, at six o'clock on Saturday morning. On instituting an inquiry on Saturday forenoon detective Shuttleworth ascertained that young Ambler had consulted his father as to the bag and its contents, and had returned both to the owner, Mr. Martin Sutcliffe, cattle-dealer, of Elizabeth-street, Little Horton-lane, whose name was found on some of the bills which were amongst the money. The contents of the bag amounted to not less than £3000 in gold, bank notes, cheques, and bills, and Mr. Sutcliffe "rewarded" Ambler by giving him £3. An intimation was also received at the Bradford police-station that he would reward Elizabeth Bray "if she would call upon him." The reward she received was 10s.!

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. BROTHERTON, M.P.—Mr. Joseph Brotherton, M.P. for Salford, died very suddenly on Wednesday morning, about five minutes to eleven o'clock, whilst riding in an omnibus from his residence at Pendleton to keep an engagement which he had made in Manchester that morning. Mr. Brotherton had been suffering from an affection of the heart for some time, and had consulted Dr. Hervey, but was in his usual apparent health up to the time he entered the omnibus, and had on the previous day presided as a magistrate at the Salford Police Court. In the omnibus with him were his friends, Sir John Potter and Sir Elkanah Armitage, and they were in conversation for nearly a mile of the way from Pendleton, during which Mr. Brotherton accepted an invitation from Sir John Potter to spend an evening with him next week, when a sudden change in the countenance of the hon. member attracted the attention of Sir John, marked by a wild and vacant gaze at the top of the omnibus. "Look at Mr. Brotherton," he observed, "how ill he looks;" and immediately afterwards Mr. Brotherton reclined gently backwards, as though for support. The omnibus was passing the Crescent at the time, and Sir John becoming seriously alarmed for his friend desired that the omnibus should at once be stopped. With the assistance of a gentleman present Mr. Brotherton was carried into Mr. Southam's, surgeon, in the Crescent, but the time had already gone by when any human aid could prevail; and it is believed the hon. gentleman had ceased to exist before he was carried out of the omnibus. He died at the advanced age of seventy-three years.

ACCIDENT TO THE SUBMARINE CABLES ACROSS THE CHANNEL.—During the fearful gales of the 5th inst. a ship of 700 tons, heavily laden, lost her anchor in the Downs, and, driven by the force of the gale and tide, fouled a schooner; she then, becoming more unmanageable, drifted into five fathoms water. An anchor was speedily let go, with forty fathoms of chain attached, but the barque, still impelled by the unusual force of the gale, dragged her anchor until she was suddenly brought up sharply head to wind on opening the western light of the South Foreland. It is feared that she here seized upon the Submarine Company's Ostend cable; the hurricane prevailing, however, coupled with the tide, the weight of the ship, and the necessity of her keeping her foretopsail out and aback to drift into deep water, worked so much upon the submarine line, that after her holding for some length of time, the cable giving way as is supposed, she instantly swung round before the wind, and was careering forward with increased momentum, when she was suddenly brought up head to wind again by the Calais cable. The barque was held, in spite of the heavy sea, the gale, and the pressure of the wind on her sails, for about an hour, when once more she broke away and sailed off down the Channel. Both submarine lines unfortunately became unworkable, in consequence of this untoward accident, and communication with the Continent was partially stopped. The sea at the point where the vessel caught the cables is about fourteen fathoms deep only, and the spot is within three-quarters of a mile of the shore.



THE BOGUE FORTS.

BOMBARDMENT OF CANTON.

(From a Correspondent.)

CANTON, November 13, 1856.

IT is wonderful to see how small a spark creates a large flame. Our amicable relations with China, at a critical period of its history, are fast merging into hostilities of which it is difficult to see the end; and the open rupture which has already taken place arises merely from the seizure of Chinese criminals by Chinese officials. The British lorcha *Arrow*, manned by a Chinese crew, anchored off the city of Canton. It appears that one of the crew gave evidence to the Mandarins against some of his comrades, as being connected with rebels. The authorities, instead of first applying to the British Consul to seize the men, took the initiative, and captured the whole crew, hauled down the British flag, and took the prisoners into the city. The master of the lorcha was not on board. The Consul was informed of the seizure, at once applied for the prisoners to be returned on board the lorcha, and that an apology be made for the infraction of our treaty rights, and the insult to the British flag. No apology was given, and the men were sent to the Consulate in chains; but not, as was required, placed on board of the lorcha. They were, consequently, not received, and the Consul, under instructions from Sir John Bowring, placed the settlement of the question in the hands of Admiral Sir Michael Seymour. A correspondence took place between the Admiral and Yeh, the Imperial High Commissioner, Sir Michael demanding an interview, so that affairs might the more readily be adjusted, and claimed the privilege for all foreign officials to have right of access to the authorities in the city at all times, to prevent a recurrence of such hostile measures as have frequently had to be resorted to to enforce the simple and just claims of the British Plenipotentiary. The whole foreign community agreed in the correctness of Sir Michael's demands, and doubted not that if they were obtained the result would likely be of permanent satisfaction.

With a deliberateness and moderation which do great credit to the Admiral's good judgment and humanity, the operations commenced to compel the Governor-General Yeh to treat the Admiral's demands with consideration were carried on step by step in such a manner that the people could scarcely fail to discover that the hostilities were directed solely against the Government and not against them. The forts on the river were taken. This was followed by shelling the Governor-General's residence and the forts at the north of the city. Then the wall was breached, and Canton for the first time was entered by British troops. The palace was visited by Sir Michael in person, and the Chinese said that even with 500 men their defences were worthless, and their city, which never before fell but to treachery, could be boldly defied by our sailors and marines, without the assistance of regular troops at all. Our force was not large enough

BOCCA TIGRIS AND THE BOGUE FORTS.

CANTON RIVER: THE RED FORT AND EUROPEAN QUARTERS.

to maintain a position in the city, nor was such ever attempted. The Admiral paid the official visit he intended, then retired, and informed Yeh that he had called at his official residence, but found that he was out. The next step was a hazardous one, but it was successfully accomplished. The Government offices in the city were shelled, the rest of the city being spared. The effect of the shells was not as destructive as might have been wished, but the practice was excellent. The different courts must soon have been tenantless. Some of the shells were thrown at a range of over 3000 yards! The part shelled was where the Joss poles are shown in the picture of the Tartar part of the city. The Governor-General's own palace being damaged, it was supposed that he would remove his Court to the Tartar General's or the provincial Governor's. No effect being produced by the operations, so far as Yeh was concerned, the people had an opportunity of seeing his whole fleet, upon which much dependence had been placed, utterly destroyed. It was anchored at the east end of the city, under the walls of a fort called the French Folly. The men were most confident; many had been actively engaged against the rebels, or as pirates, and were accustomed to fighting. The *Barracouta*, with Commanders Fortescue and Bate on board, assisted by the boats of other ships, under command of Captain Hall, the whole being under the guidance of Commodore Elliot, proceeded against the thirty war-junks and the fort, that were said to be so well prepared. No sooner did the first shot flash from the steamer's guns than the whole mass of guns in the junks and the fort were discharged, pouring out a perfect storm of shot, which tore the rigging of the *Barracouta*, hulled her unsparingly, and, owing to the position in which she swung to her anchor, she was left for a time almost at their mercy. This gave the Chinese great confidence; but, when at length she could bring her guns to bear, the crash of her shot and shell told fearfully upon the fort and junks; the boats and steam-tender *Coromandel* also joined in the work of destruction. In less than half an hour the Chinese were driven from their guns, and the fort was in our possession—the junks blazing a bonfire of triumph, and the frequent explosion of their magazines proclaiming to all the country round the dashing victory which had been gained. All the other forts had been taken without the slightest resistance, but this little action gave a zest to the proceedings, and was a good lesson to the Chinese of the inutility of attempting resistance.

The Bogue Forts were manned by the Chinese, and intended to destroy the fleet as the Admiral returned; but, after two days, the whole of these were in our possession. What the Admiral's next operation will be it is difficult to tell. He has scarcely men enough to occupy the city, and his measures have been directed so positively against the Government that it is very improbable that he would attempt to destroy the city, or even take it, when he has not sufficient force to protect the people. All these difficulties arise from the bad policy of the British Government not long ago insisting upon an entrance into the city, and submitting to a series of insults from the Mandarins. This has long been foreseen; and it is fortunate that we have now, in Sir Michael Seymour, got an officer who is not likely to stay proceedings till his point is carried.

The people do not appear to be against us, and some of the wealthiest native merchants do not hesitate to condemn Yeh's obstinacy, feeling, as they do, satisfied in the humanity of our proceedings. Mr. Consul Parkes has taken every possible means to spread the true account of the Admiral's intentions and Yeh's replies to his demands among the native population; and with a successful result, so far as we can see. We are, indeed, lucky in many of the officers actively engaged. Consul Parkes understands the Chinamen, per-

GENERAL VIEW OF CANTON.

haps, better than any of our officials. Wade, the interpreter to the Plenipotentiary, is here too, to assist in his department. Commander Bate seems to be the Admiral's right-hand man: he certainly manages admirably. When the French Folly was taken he left the marines and sailors to do the demolishing, and coolly sat on the top, taking angles for positions of buildings in the city. Captain Hall has command of the shore force, and is everywhere. The Commodore, too, works away incessantly, but quietly, and shirks no danger.

It will be long before trade is resumed; and we have yet to see the effect the present position of the Mandarins will have upon the rebels. They are ready to take advantage of the increased weakness of the Government; but the southern insurgents are scarcely strong enough themselves to form any stable ruling power, and have as yet no leader that commands the respect of the people. If the Tai-ping-wang rebels had only some troops near enough to annex the province of Kwang-tung to the other parts of the empire held by them, the people here would have less to suffer. We shall probably find that the very weakness of the Government, now struck so severely, will reduce it to utter helplessness, and the country become in a worse state than when it was overrun by the rebel bands two years ago. We may yet have to become the protectors of the people, and thereby gain a footing which would be of boundless advantage.

The Admiral is certainly more than ordinarily well prepared to act against the Chinese Government, and it has been the subject of some discussion whether or not the orders he has from home have not been such as to lead him to take advantage of any opportunity that may arise to strengthen our position and obtain fresh mercantile advantages in China. It may be that the recent rumour of the Russians having made a new treaty with the Emperor has influenced him, for we have it from Pekin that the Russians are to aid Hien Fung in conquering the rebels at Nankin, &c.; for which service they are to bring out steamers, and in return get a grant of Chusan or one of the neighbouring islands This would give them a winter harbour in the Pacific, and lead probably to forts and arsenals there which could not but seriously jeopardise our trade with China, should unhappily any rupture with Russia again occur.

Yeh is noted for his barbarity. Upwards of 100,000 people were executed by him in this city alone in about six months during the rebellion. But we were surprised to find that he knew so little of civilised warfare, after all the lessons the Chinese have had, to offer rewards all through the province calling for foreign heads to be brought to his office. The Admiral remonstrated with him, and, in reply, he said it was the people who offered the rewards. This the old Hong merchants are very angry at, and, unfortunately for Yeh's veracity, one of the proclamations offering the reward was found in his own name close to his official residence. Already attempts have been made to seize foreigners in other parts of the province. Should Yeh's instructions be carried to other provinces nothing but a general war with China can follow. However, it is doubtful if the Viceroys of Fokien and the Two Kiang would second the Imperial Commissioner's views.

November 14.

We have news from the Bogue. The forts were well manned, but have all been taken, with only the loss of one man and three wounded on our side. The chief Mandarin was asked to surrender, but answered that, though he was sorry to have to fight against the English, he must obey his instructions. After the men were driven from their guns every effort was made to prevent the further destruction of life; many were picked up in the water, and taken to the mainland. The Mandarins had removed all boats from the island forts, so as to force the men to fight.

There is a Sketch of the city herewith, taken from the terrace on the Oriental Bank, showing the forts at the north, and the position of the Government offices in the Tartar city that were shelled. Also a Sketch of the breach opposite the Governor-General's Ya-mun, taken from the Dutch Folly, where the breaching battery was laid.

The Chinamen seem to be afraid of his burning the city, and go so far as to say that they hope we will give them notice three or four days before, so little do they seem to trust in their soldiers.

There was an abortive expedition towards the French Folly this afternoon (Nov. 14); nothing was done, perhaps because it was no worth while. I could see but very few men in the forts, though the guns were remounted.

The *London Gazette* of Tuesday last contains despatches from Rear-Admiral Seymour, with a great number of inclosures, giving details of the late operations at Canton. The principal features have been already published. It appears, however, that the twelve men who were forcibly taken by the Chinese authorities from the colonial vessel *Arrow* were eventually sent back, but as it was not in a public mannner in which they were carried away, and as all appearance of an apology was pointedly avoided, they were not received by the British Consul. A bold attempt was made by the Chinese to destroy the ships by fire-rafts; and but for the promptitude with which the *Barracouta* slipped her cable, disastrous consequences might have ensued. Rear-Admiral Seymour took the opportunity which had arisen from the affair of the *Arrow* to demand also the admission of foreigners into Canton, according to treaty; but up to Nov. 14th the demands had not been complied with.

The health of the men was remarkably good, and the British squadron continued in an efficient state for any further service.

Rear-Admiral Seymour expresses his entire approval of the officers and men engaged in the operations, and he thanks the British and foreign communities for their cordial support, and the United States' commanders for the good order and harmony which they contributed to preserve. He also particularises the zeal and gallant conduct of several of his officers.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS—FROM ORIGINAL SKETCHES.

CANTON RIVER.

The view on Canton River (looking down stream) is taken from just above the foreign factories, which are shown on the left. In the gardens between the factories and the river is the English and American church. The river front of the gardens is defended by a strong palisade, with a gate; the rest of the factories is surrounded by a wall.

Nearly opposite is the *Red Fort*, so called from the lower half of it being painted of that colour. Two other round forts, called the Dutch and French Follies, guard the river towards the eastern end of the town. In the middle, opposite the factories, usually lies an English war-steamer, as a protection to the foreign residents. The river is crowded with boats, and above and below the factories, where it is a little wider, they are moored in rows, like streets. These do not move about, but are inhabited by families who have no houses on land; others ply about these floating streets and supply them with provisions making a most busy and motley scene.

VIEW OF THE CITY OF CANTON.

This view was taken from a hill at the back of Canton. The sketcher walked round the outside of the city, and, leaving the factories on the west side, threaded the narrow streets of the suburbs and then came to the open country at the back of Canton. A little way beyond, on a hill, was a small fort entirely commanding the city Ascending the hill, the Artist seated himself on the steps of the fort and took the sketch; but thought it somewhat of a risk, as it is a dangerous thing to walk round the city at all. The prospect was a very extensive one, embracing, in addition to the whole of Canton the river with its numerous branches, and the level country beyond and the course of the stream could be traced down to Whampoa, the tall pagoda near which was plainly visible. Canton appeared one mass of red roofs, with but few buildings rising above the rest. The wall is built with regular courses of squared stone, mixed with rubble work, and is strengthened here and there with towers. The distance round is said to be nine miles; and the walls can be traced among the houses for a considerable distance, cutting off a large portion of the suburbs. The city gates are low archways, with a cannon in a tower over them.

THE BOGUE FORTS.

The Bogue Forts command the entrance to the Pearl River, which runs up to Canton. The hills here rise up steep from the river, particularly on the north side, where most of the forts are situated. They are of great extent—a long straight fortification running along the shore, and others up the hillsides—and in the hands of an enemy with any idea of military science would be very formidable. Since the war of 1841, when we took them with our ships, they have been strengthened, and now mount some heavy guns. Tiger Island, which also has fortifications on it, lies in the river, opposite the Bogue Forts.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Jan. 11.—1st Sunday after Epiphany.
MONDAY, 12.—Plough Monday.
TUESDAY, 13.—Charles James Fox born, 1749.
WEDNESDAY, 14.—Cambridge Term ends.
THURSDAY, 15.—Queen Elizabeth crowned, 1559.
FRIDAY, 16.—Gibbon died, 1794. Battle of Corunna, 1809.
SATURDAY, 17.—Dr. Franklin born, 1706.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,

FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 17, 1856.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
2 35	3 0	3 20	3 40	4 0	4 20	4 40	5 0	5 15	5 35	5 55	6 10	6 30	6 50

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Three JUVENILE NIGHTS, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, commencing at Seven, with THE LITTLE TREASURE: Miss Blanche Fane and Mr. Buckstone. After which the Pantomime of the BABES in the WOOD; or Harlequin and the Cruel Uncle (to conclude shortly after Ten). Concluding at Eleven with the Farce of MAKE YOUR WILLS: Joseph, Mr. Buckstone. Thursday, Jan. 15, by desire, and for this night only, The Inconstant; Young Mirabel, Mr. Murdoch; and the Pantomime. On Friday and Saturday, The School for Scandal; and the Pantomime. A Morning Performance of the Pantomime every Thursday, commencing at Two, and concluding at Four.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE. — Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM. Saturday, the CORSICAN BROTHERS. The Pantomime every Evening. Mendelssohn's celebrated Overture to "Midsummer Night's Dream" will commence five minutes before 7.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—The PANTOMIME every Night.—First week of A NIGHT at NOTTING-HILL.—MONDAY and during the week, DOMESTIC ECONOMY, Mr. Wright. A NIGHT at NOTTING-HILL. Messrs. Wright and Paul Bedford. MOTHER SHIPTON; or, Harlequin Knight of Love. Harlequin and Columbine, à la Watteau, Madame Celeste and Miss Wyndham.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—A MORNING PERFORMANCE every SATURDAY at Two o'clock.—A success beyond precedent has attended Mr. W. Cooke's Equestrian Pantomime. The drolleries of Paul Pry's comical horse and the splendour of the golden chariot, drawn by eight golden-footed steeds, driven by Mr. W. Cooke, elicit the admiration of delighted audiences. Monday, January 12, and all the Week, RICHARD III.: Richard, Mr. James Holloway. Commence at a Quarter before Seven o'clock.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE.—The GREAT PANTOMIME of the SEASON is, as usual, the "Standard." The Transformation Scene the most beautiful, most costly, and complicated piece of machinery every witnessed. Morning Performance, Monday, at 12.

ROYAL COLOSSEUM.—COLOSSEUM of SCIENCE and ART COMPANY (Limited), Regent's-park and Albany-street is now OPEN DAILY, at Twelve in the Morning and Seven in the Evening, under the direction of Dr. BACHHOFFNER, F.C.S. Admission Reduced from 4s. 6d. to One Shilling. Grand Evening Concert, by the Orchestra of the Crystal Palace, at Eight o'clock. Vocalist, Miss Susan Cole; Conductor, Herr Manns. Glees, Madrigals, and Part Songs, by the Orpheus Glee Union, at Three o'clock Colossal Panoramas of London by Day and Night. Gigantic Diorama of Lisbon, showing the startling effects of the Great Earthquake. Mountain Torrent, Cascades, Waterfalls, and Mountain Scenery, brilliantly illuminated by a grand Pyrotechnic Display.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—The CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS this year are on the most liberal and extensive scale.
New Lecture by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on "Optical Illusions," with curious experiments, every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Three and Eight.
Miniature Juvenile Model Theatre, by Mr. Freeman, who will exhibit the Ghost Scene from the "Corsican Brothers," daily.
Mr. Logrenia's astonishing Conjuring Tricks and Comic Delusions. Entire new series of Dissolving Views by Mr. Clare, illustrating the "Traveller's Portfolio," daily.
Third Gratuitous Distribution of thousands of beautiful ornaments and Mappin's Pocket-knives from the Giant Christmas Tree next Thursday (Morning and Evening), 15th January.
Second and most costly series of Dissolving Views, illustrating Blue Beard, with humorous and original descriptions by Leicester Buckingham, Esq., daily at Four and Nine.
Admission to the whole, 1s.; children and schools, half-price.

GENERAL TOM THUMB.—REGENT GALLERY, 69, Quadrant.—The SMALLEST MAN ALIVE.—Patronised by her Majesty in 1844.—New Characters, Songs, Dances, &c. Remains but a short time previous to visiting Ireland, Scotland, Paris, and Russia. THREE LEVEES DAILY, from 11 to 1, 3 till 5, and 7 to 9. To avoid the crowd the morning and evening Levees are recommended. Admission to promenade, area, and gallery, without regard to age, 1s.; reserved stalls, 2s.; children, 1s.; drawing-room seats, 3s.; children, 1s. 6d.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, BADEN, UP the RHINE, and PARIS, is NOW OPEN, EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at Eight o'Clock. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Stalls can be secured at the Box-office, EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly, every day, between Eleven and Four, without any extra charge. The Morning Representations take place every Tuesday and Saturday, at Three o'Clock

HENRY RUSSELL will give his Entertainment, entitled The FAR WEST; or, Every-day Life in America—the Second Part, entitled NEGRO LIFE—at the Lecture-hall, Greenwich, Wednesday, Jan. 21st; Lecture-hall, Woolwich, Thursday; Institution, Deptford, Friday; Lecture-hall, Carter-street, Walworth, Monday, Jan. 26th; Myddelton Hall, Islington, Tuesday; King's Arms, Kensington, Wednesday; Institution, Edwards-street, Portman-square, Thursday; Eyre Arms, St. John's-wood, Friday. Mr. Russell will accompany himself on Collard and Collard's magnificent Bi-chord Pianoforte.—Doors opens at half-past Seven; commence at Eight.

MR. W. S. WOODIN'S OLIO of ODDITIES, with New Costumes and various novelties, Vocal and Characteristic, EVERY EVENING (Saturday excepted), at Eight. A Morning Performance every Saturday, at Three. Private Boxes and Stalls may be secured without extra charge, at the Box-office.—Polygraphic Hall, King William-street, Charing-cross. The Hall has been entirely redecorated.

MISS P. HORTON'S POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT at the GALLERY of ILLUSTRATIONS, 14, Regent-street.—Mr. and Mrs. T. GERMAN REED (late Miss P. Horton) give their ILLUSTRATIONS (with an entirely new part) EVERY EVENING (except Saturday) at Eight o'Clock. A MORNING PERFORMANCE every Saturday at Three o'Clock. Admission 2s. and 1s.; Stalls, 3s. May be secured at the Gallery, from Eleven till Four; and at Cramer, Beale, and Co.'s, 201, Regent-street.

CANTERBURY HALL, Westminster-road.—OPEN EVERY EVENING.—The celebrated SPANISH MINSTRELS will appear in their National Costume at Nine and Eleven o'Clock, in addition to the usual VOCAL ENTERTAINMENTS. Suppers, &c., until Twelve o'Clock.

THE SISTERS SOPHIA and ANNIE, in their Original Entertainment, entitled SKETCHES from NATURE, will appear at SUNDERLAND, Jan. 13th; DURHAM, 14th; MIDDLESBORO', 15th; STOCKTON, 16th.

SALLE VOUSDEN, 315, Oxford-street (ten doors from the Regent-circus).—VALENTINE VOUSDEN, the great Polynational Mimic, in his Original Entertainment, the UNITY OF NATIONS, every evening (Saturday excepted), at 8 o'clock.—Seats, 3s., 2s., and 1s., may be secured at Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street.—Day Performance on Saturday, at 2 o'clock.

MR. GEORGE GENGE'S CONCERT and BALL on the Evening of JANUARY 13, in FREEMASONS' HALL, Great Queen-street.—Concert at 9; Ball at 10.30; Supper at 1. Tickets 5s. each.

SPIRITUAL MANIFESTATIONS, or Table Experiments. Mr. TURLEY respectfully informs the Public he will give a SECOND LECTURE at ST. MARTIN'S HALL, on TUESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 13, at 8. The Lady Medium, whose singing the hymn "Angel Spirits" (written by Mr. Turley) was so deservedly applauded, will repeat it. Tickets (to be had of the Hall, or of Mr. Turley, 81, Wells-street, Oxford-street), 1s., 2s., 3s. "Mr. Turley delivered a Lecture as above on Wednesday, tables were moved, rappings effected, the seance fairly conducted."—ILLUSTRATED NEWS, Dec. 20th, 1856. Now Ready, and may be had of the Author, TABLE TURNING, &c., price 6d. "The Author is a good-humoured writer, who has also serious evidence"—Court Journal.

EDUCATION, Six Guineas per Quarter (no Extras whatever), Parlour Boarders, Eight Guineas. Established Twenty Years.—Young Ladies liberally BOARDED and INSTRUCTED in English, French, Music, Drawing, Dancing, Writing, and Arithmetic. Laundress, Church Seat, Books, Parisienne Governess, and Writing Master included. A liberal table, good pleasure-ground, spacious bed-rooms, and school and dining rooms 66 feet in length.—Cards at Mr. Fitch's, 66, Bishopsgate-street Within.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, Charing-cross, founded in 1816, for Relieving the Poor afflicted with Diseases of the Eye. The assistance of the benevolent is earnestly entreated in support of this Hospital, the funds of which are wholly inadequate to meet the increasing demands for relief. Six Thousand poor persons are annually admitted on their own applications; there are 30 beds for in-patients; the wards are large and airy; and it is deeply to be deplored that the insufficiency of means for their support precludes the admission of only half that number. Contributions received by Messrs. Coutts and Co., bankers, Strand; by Messrs. Drummond, bankers, Charing-cross; by the Secretary, at the Hospital.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1857.

It appears on authority of the *Moniteur*—from which the British public must be content, until the meeting of Parliament, to glean all its knowledge of foreign affairs—that the second Conference of Paris has concluded its labours, and signed a protocol which puts an end to the difficulties raised by the dishonesty of Russian diplomacy, and which have delayed the execution of the bungling Treaty of the 30th of March, 1856. The *Moniteur* states that "the Conference, with unanimous accord, has decided that the frontier shall follow the valley of Trajan up the River Yalpuch, leaving Tiglorad and Toback to Moldavia, and that Russia shall retain upon the right bank Komrat, with 330 wersts of territory. The Isle of Serpents is to be considered as part of the mouths of the Danube. The Conference recognises that it was the intention of the Congress to re-establish, by Article 21, the territories west of the new boundaries in their former situation; and, to conform to the intentions of the negotiators of peace, it has decided that these territories shall be annexed to Moldavia, with the exception of Dolk, on the Danube, which is to revert to Turkey," Why Russia is to be rewarded, for her own *mala fides* in claiming Bolgrad and the Isle of Serpents, by the cession of 330 wersts of territory will puzzle plain people to explain, though it will, perhaps, offer no difficulty to the diplomatic wisdom now concentrated in Paris. The Conference has further decided that the boundaries between Moldavia and Russia shall be settled and take effect by the 30th of March next ensuing; and that, by the same date, the Austrian troops shall evacuate the Danubian Principalities and and the British fleet the Black Sea.

When these two movements shall have been effected, the Commissioners for the arrangement of the affairs of the Principalities are to commence their deliberations. How long they will sit no one can tell; but after their labours are brought to a close the Conference of Paris is to reassemble for the third time in order to settle by a convention the final agreement between the contracting parties as to the organisation of the Principalities." Great to Russia are the uses both of adversity and diplomacy! For attempting to cheat the Allies, or for allowing the Allies to cheat themselves, she is to receive at the hands of diplomacy 330 wersts of territory belonging to Turkey; and she is to have a hand in a third Conference. If a new misunderstanding do not arise before that Conference be called together, and if Russia do not contrive on the strength of it to filch another advantage, either in wersts or in something else more valuable, we shall be very much pleased, and very much mistaken.

The Swiss difficulty is on the point of a final settlement. It has been asserted in some of the Continental journals—from whence the statement has been copied into the leading English newspapers—that the King of Prussia has been supported in his foolish claim by the English Court and Government. We notice this statement only to express our disbelief in it. There can be no doubt that the Courts of London and erlin entertain the kindest feelings towards each other. The approaching marriage of the Princess Royal of England with the heir to the throne of Prussia will naturally strengthen the pre-existent amity; but the Court of England is too conservative, too prudent, and too wise, to have departed from its customary non-interference in foreign politics, in any cause—much more in a cause so hopelessly bad as that of the King of Prussia. he same reasoning will apply with still greater force to the Government; and we will not do Lord Palmerston the injustice of supposing, even for a moment, that he has not used all the means and influence at his command to bring about the settlement of the dispute by peaceful negotiation, and with the strictest maintenance of the independence and liberty of the Swiss.

Although both parties prepared for war, the Swiss are so unmistakably in the right, and so thoroughly in earnest in their resolution to defend themselves to the last extremity; their country is so easy to be defended, and so difficult to be attacked; the patriotism of all classes of the people is so great, and the sympathies of Europe are so decidedly in their favour, that the Great Powers will not allow the King of Prussia to risk a general convulsion. The attack of Russia upon Turkey nearly produced the great war of principles, so long foreseen and so steadily guarded against by every non-Russian statesman in Europe. An attack upon Switzerland on such a pretence as that put forward by King Frederick William would be far more likely to produce the dreaded catastrophe. Unless Prussia, Austria Russia, and France are persuaded that the time for the inevitable conflict has at last arrived, and that now is the hour to make the great attempt to crush out the last vestiges of popular freedom from the European continent, the King of Prussia will be made to keep the peace. Such may be the sentiments of the Sovereigns of Prussia, Austria, and Russia, but the Emperor of the French neither participates in nor encourages them. Without the certainty of his aid the other despotic Sovereigns would not dare to precipitate the struggle. France not only requires peace, but it is the Emperor's avowed and only possible policy to maintain it; and it is probable that, by means of his good offices, and those of the British Government, the bases of a settlement have already been acceded to, both by the King of Prussia and by Switzerland. Such a settlement has, in fact, been announced; but up to the time at which we go to press we have not seen it confirmed on sufficient authority.

THE official despatches of Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, which have been published *in extenso* in the daily journals, afford a clear and consecutive history of the bombardment of Canton, and of the causes which compelled our civil functionaries to counsel, and our naval and military authorities to execute, a measure of such severity. The despatches confirm the impression created by the first meagre announcements, that the obstinacy of the Chinese Governor was entirely to blame for the catastrophe, and that our Consul and our Admiral acted with all the forbearance that was advisable or possible under the circumstances. They show, moreover, that the work has only begun; that, having gone so far, our Government must go further, and maintain their hostile attitude towards China until full reparation is offered. It is not for the sake of the mere reparation that the British authorities must persevere, but for the sake of the future good understanding between the two nations, which it is as much the duty as the interest of both to secure uninterrupted.

The class of people at home who make it a point of honour to insist that their own country can never fire a gun but in the wrong have already launched a volley of their amiable invectives at the heads of Sir John Bowring, Mr. Parkes, Admiral Seymour, and of all the functionaries who have either aided or approved in giving the obstinate, crafty, and prejudiced officials of China the lesson of respect to British power, of which they stood in

so much need. The journals which speak the sentiments of this party—the same which represented the late Emperor Nicholas as an angel of light, of peace, and of good will; and which still maintain that he would have done a good deed if he had swept the Turks out of Europe—are loud in their denunciations of British power in the East, and hold up Governor Yeh to the admiration and commiseration of the world as the patient and heroic victim of our insolence and rapacity. But no unprejudiced person who carefully reads the despatches, and takes into account all the anterior circumstances which for the last fourteen years have rendered the intercourse of Englishmen with the Chinese at the port of Canton a daily source of ill-feeling, will come to any other conclusion than that the Chinese authorities well merited the castigation they received; that they wilfully and maliciously commenced the quarrel; that their own obstinacy exasperated it as it proceeded; and that, if our Consul and Admiral had vainly submitted to the one insult originally complained of, they would have speedily discovered it to be but one of the links in a long and augmenting series. By the Treaty of 1842 it was expressly stipulated that in case of any misunderstanding or dispute whatsoever in which the honour of the British flag, or the rights or liberties of British subjects, or persons under the protection of Great Britain, were involved, the British authorities should have free access to the Chinese in the five ports which were, by that treaty, thrown open to British commerce. In four out of these five ports the stipulations of the treaty have been observed. In four out of these five ports such a difficulty as that which arose in the matter of the lorcha, under British colours, illegally seized by the Chinese police would have been satisfactorily adjusted without the firing of a shot. But at Canton—whose fierce, intractable population, and whose pig-headed Governors, have always evaded compliance with the treaty whenever it was possible, and who at last set it at complete defiance—a small dispute unfortunately grew into a large one. If, at the last moment left him for decision, Governor Yeh had consented to an interview with Admiral Seymour, and thus acknowledged and conformed to the treaty, the difficulty would have been surmounted, and Great Britain and China would not at this moment have been at war.

The Chinese are a great people in their own way. They have reached a much higher stage of civilisation than those who call them barbarians are aware of. They are rich, intelligent, and industrious, and, like many other nations nearer home, are far in advance of their Government both in intellect and in good feeling. As far as the people can (always excepting the savage and vindictive people of Canton) they are breaking down the barrier of exclusiveness which shut them from the rest of the world, and many of them in Australia and in California have made themselves British and American subjects, and entitled themselves to, and fully received the protection of, British and American laws. The Government, of which the head is a Tartar, and therefore a foreign Emperor and representative of a conquering dynasty, lags far behind the people, and maintains a system of hostility towards strangers which is not only insulting and vexatious, and inimical to trade and peaceful intercourse, but, in the case which has occurred at Canton, in direct violation of the faith of treaties with this country. The next mail will doubtless inform us whether Yeh has been supported by the central authority at Pekin, or deprived of his office for the mischievous mistake which he committed. It certainly will not be wise in the Emperor, at a time when his empire is devastated by a sanguinary and long-protracted civil war, to court hostilities with a Power like England; and it is probable that Yeh will be disavowed and dismissed, and the relations of the English and the Chinese at Canton placed on a more satisfactory footing. If not, the course of this country is clear, Though the English Government must regret the necessity of war. it must bring the Chinese authorities to reason, for the sake of future peace. If Yeh and his abettors could by any chance gain the victory in this matter we might bid farewell to Canton, which would no longer be a safe residence for a European. Such a result is simply impossible. Canton is at the merey of our arms, as indeed is every other city on the vast seaboard of China which our commanders might judge it necessary to attack. No Englishman desires to "annex" any portion of the Chinese territory, or seeks for anything from China, except a more extended trade and a more peaceful intercourse; and, in spite of an obstinacy which looks like stolidity on the part of Governor Yeh, it is most likely that the present misunderstanding will eventuate in results satisfactory to both nations.

THE COURT.

There has been little variety in Court movements this week. A few military officers have been honoured with invitations to the Royal table; but the usual hospitalities of the season cannot yet be said to have commenced.

On Sunday the Queen and the Prince, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, and Princess Helena, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of the Castle. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated. The Duchess of Kent and Princess Amelie of Hohenlohe-Schillingfurst were also at the service.

On Monday the Queen and the Prince walked in the Home Park, and visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent at Frogmore. The Prince of Wales went out hunting. The Princes of Leiningen and the Earl and Countess Granville dined with her Majesty in the evening.

On Tuesday the Queen and the Princess Royal walked in the Home Park. The Prince Consort, accompanied by the Prince and Prince Edward of Leiningen, went out shooting. Earl Granville accompanied his Royal Highness. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent visited her Majesty. In the evening the Hon. Charles A. Gore and Major-General Sir Henry Barnard dined with her Majesty.

On Wednesday the Queen walked in the grounds adjoining the Castle, accompanied by the Prince of Wales. His Royal Highness Prince Albert went out shooting, accompanied by Earl Granville and the Hon. Charles Gore. The Duke and Duchess of Nemours visited her Majesty.

The Hon. Lucy Kerr and the Hon. Mary Bulteel have succeeded the Beatrice Byng and the Hon. Emily Cathcart as Maids of Honour in Waiting.

His Excellency the Ambassador of France left town on Tuesday for Broadlands, on a visit to Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston.

His Excellency the Hanoverian Minister left London on Monday, on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Jersey, at Middleton Park. The Countess Helene Kielmansegge has left town on a visit to the Earl and Countess Howe, at Gopsall, Leicestershire.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Ailesbury have been receiving a family circle at Savernake Lodge, near Marlborough, during the Christmas holidays.

The Earl and Countess Craven have been entertaining a distinguished party during the holidays at Ashdown Park. The gentlemen of the party have had capital sport in the noble Earl's preserves.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE INCOME-TAX.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Cordwainers' Ward was held on Monday, at the Crown Tavern, Bow-lane, when resolutions were unanimously passed, calling for an early modification of the Income-tax.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.—A meeting of the Fellows Elect by Commissari Majori was held at the College, Trafalgar-square, on Monday afternoon, at four o'clock, when Dr. Thomas Mayo, of Wimpole-street, Cavendish-square, was unanimously elected President of the College. Dr. Mayo was created Elect Consiliarius in 1856; Censor in 1835, 1839, and 1850; Lumleian in 1839 and 1842; Harveian Orator in 1841; Consiliarius in 1838, 1842, 1848 and 1852; and Croonian Lecturer in 1853.

ST. PETER'S, STEPNEY.—On Wednesday evening (last week) about 750 children were entertained at the school-rooms connected with St. Peter's, Stepney, and treated to cake, tea, oranges, nuts, and a toy for each child. The treat was given at the desire and cost of Miss Burdett Coutts. On the evening of the New Year 200 of the poor—the halt, the maimed, and the blind—of the district were regaled at an excellent feast of roast beef and plum-pudding, at the expense of the same benevolent lady. The latter feast was honoured by the presence of Miss Burdett Coutts and her friends, the Countess of Falmouth and Mrs. Brown. The Rev. T. J. Rowsell, in a very appropriate speech, explained the purposes for which the noble rooms were built. Miss Burdett Coutts gave £500 towards the building fund, and the remaindcr (except £240 still unpaid) was collected by the great exertions of the Rev. T. I. Rowsell, the minister of St. Peter's. The joy and happiness of the poor was delightful to witness. The district, containing 13,000 souls, is chiefly inhabited by the labouring poor, among whom the minister is making an earnest effort to spread the blessings of the Gospel.

THE NEW CHURCH OF ST. PETER, NOTTING-HILL, was consecrated on Wednesday by the Bishop of London, who, upon his arrival, was received by the Archdeacon of Middlesex, the Rev. Dr. Irons, Incumbent of Brompton; the Rev. J. P. Gell, Incumbent of St. John's, Notting-hill; the Rev. E. F. Boyle, Vicar of Hammersmith; the Rev. Dr. Francis Hessey, Incumbent of St. Barnabas, Kensington; the Rev. T. P. Holditch, Incumbent of St. James's, Norland; the Rev. Thomas Pearson, Incumbent of St. Mary's, West Brompton; the Rev Messrs. Tagg, Liberty, Bolton, Neville, and a large number of the principal laity of the neighbourhood. The Archdeacon of Middlesex presented to the Bishop a petition praying him to consecrate the church, to which his Lordship assented, and the usual ceremony was proceeded with, the sermon being preached by the Bishop. A district for the new church has been assigned out of the parish of Kensington, and the Incumbency has been conferred upon the Rev. F. H. Addams, of Trinity College, Cambridge, late Curate of St. John's, Notting-hill.

THE lady seatholders of the temporary church of St. Luke, Camden-road, Holloway, recently subscribed the sum of £61 1s., which was presented to the Incumbent, the Rev. H. Hampton, M.A., on his birthday, the 1st inst., as a mark of their appreciation of the zeal and efficiency evinced by him in the discharge of his duties.

THE SWISS IN LONDON.—A meeting of the Swiss residing in London was held on the 2nd inst., at Radley's Hotel, Blackfriars, for the purpose of addressing the Federal Council of Switzerland, in reference to the threatened attack by Prussia. Nearly 200 persons were present, and the aspect of the meeting was in thorough unison with the patriotism which has been exhibited in all the cantons of Switzerland. The chair was taken by Mr. John Rapp, Consul-General of the Swiss Confederation in London. Before the meeting separated it was announced that the subscription, independently of £540 raised at Liverpool, already amounted to £1781. The address to the Federal Council of Switzerland was signed by upwards of 180 persons.

COFFEE AND EATING HOUSE KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.—The members of this benevolent institution, established to provide for its members in the decline of life or temporary adversity, held their annual ball at the Freemasons' Tavern last Monday; and, judging from the attendance—between 200 and 300 ladies and gentlemen being present—there is no doubt the result will add materially to the funds at the disposal of the committee.

THE STORM OF SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.—On Saturday evening the metropolis and neighbourhood experienced one of the most violent storms of wind that have occurred for some years. Great damage was done on the river to barges and other craft, many vessels being driven into collision with each other, while large trees in the parks and ornamental woods along the line of the South-Western Railway have been stripped of their branches. A man who was lighting the lamps on the Southwark Bridge was hurled from his ladder and had his arm broken; and a house in Long Alley was blown down by the force of the hurricane. A large amount of property has been destroyed, and much loss of life by shipwreck has taken place along the coast. On the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway the express train due from Oxford at half-past eight was nearly an hour and a half behind its time, owing to the severe hurricane having blown down the telegraph posts, which, together with the wires, were precipitated on to the line. Some of the windows of the express train carriages were broken in the fall. So great was the violence of the wind that the passengers by the express were unable to open the doors of the carriages in consequence of the pressure of the wind upon them.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN LONDON.—In the week that ended on Saturday the deaths of 1497 persons—viz., 761 males and 736 females—were registered in London. The deaths now recorded exhibit an excess of 44 over the corrected average. Last week the births of 1025 boys and 948 girls—in all 1973 children—were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56 the average number was 1598.

THE CITY OF LONDON UNION FRAUDS.—From the report of Mr. Morgan, the accountant appointed to examine the books of the City of London Union, it appears that the defalcations of Paul, the assistant clerk, so far as they have been ascertained up to the present time, amount to £17,524. In addition it has been found by the guardians that there is scarcely an instance in which he has not committed some fraud in connection with the accounts of the tradesmen and contractors by whom the union has been supplied with goods. It is probable, therefore, as he had filled the same post for a great number of years, that the totals now capable of being traced will very inadequately represent the real amount of his delinquencies. One feature belonging to this case equally characterised those of Robson and Redpath. While Mr. Paul was intrusted with the disbursement of sums amounting annually to many thousand pounds, free from the exercise of the slightest supervision, his salary was limited to £200 a year. He had formerly failed in the corn trade, and his habits were doubtless expensive. Robson, while indulging in the purchase of horses at 300 guineas each, was assumed to be working honestly on a salary of £150; and Redpath, who has attained middle age, and whose expenditure was proportionably of a broader character, is stated to have received only £300. Paul was brought up at the Mansion-house for further examination on Thursday, when a new charge of having stolen a cheque for £455 12s. 2d. was brought against him. Several witnesses having been called in support of the charge, the prisoner was remanded till next Friday.

OUR NEW REPRESENTATIVE IN THE UNITED STATES.—Lord Napier, now Secretary of Embassy at St. Petersburg, and who was for some time Secretary of Legation at Naples, will be the representative of her Majesty at Washington on the occasion of the completion of diplomatic intercourse between England and the United States. Lord Napier will leave this country for America on the 7th of February, and will be accompanied by the new Consuls to be appointed in the place of those whose exequatur had been withdrawn last summer. Lord Napier was attached to the Embassy at Vienna, in August, 1840; appointed paid Attaché at Teheran, September, 1842; paid Attaché at Constantinople, January, 1843; Secretary of Legation at St. Petersburg, April, 1852; and Secretary of Embassy at Constantinople, 1854.

EXPLOSION OF A NEAPOLITAN WAR STEAMER.—Accounts from Naples of the 6th state that the Neapolitan war-steamer *Carlo III.*, on her voyage to Sicily, exploded, killing a great number of those on board. Many were saved by a British ship of war cruising near the scene of the accident.

THE PARIS AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.—The *Moniteur* announces that the Universal Agricultural Exhibition will, in consequence of the fixing of the Exhibition of the Fine Arts for the 15th of June, commence on the 1st and continue to the 10th of that month, as originally designed. The reception and classification of implements, animals, and productions are to take place from the 18th to the 26th of May. From the latter day to the end of May juries will be occupied in awarding the prizes. On the 12th of June and following days experiments will be made with the machines and implements, either in the Exhibition Palace or at Villiers, near Paris. The sale of the live stock is to take place subsequently. Persons intending to exhibit are required to make known their intention before the 25th of April, either to the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce in Paris, or to the persons of their respective countries authorised to receive their declarations; and they are also required to give as full a description as possible of the animals or objects exhibited.

THE BALL OF THE BACHELORS' HUNT, which took place recently at the Corn Exchange, Atherstone, Warwickshire, is said to have passed off with unusual eclat. The company consisted of about 230 of the nobility and gentry whose names were associated with the hunt; and, in order to give full effect to the entertainment, the hall was tastefully decorated with the flags of various nations, and every description of implement and device appertaining to the chase. Amongst the guests were several distinguished Crimean heroes.

SIR ROBERT PEEL'S OPINIONS ABOUT RUSSIA.

On Monday last Sir Robert Peel delivered a lecture on Russia at Adderley Park, near Birmingham. We are sorry that our limited space forbids our giving a full report of his amusing remarks; but the following passages will give some notion of it. Talking of the fortresses in the Baltic, Sir Robert said:—"I proceeded up the Baltic, where, in the year preceding, such mighty fleets were assembled. I passed along the shores of Finland, and arrived within gunshot of that great fortress which Sir C. Napier did not take (Loud cheers, laughter, and hisses). Some gentlemen express dissent from what I state, but I believe it is strictly and literally true (Laughter). I saw that mighty fortress rising before us. I reflected naturally upon the past, and upon the great distinction that might have resulted from any successful operations against it."

THE KERTCH MUSEUM.

Another palace is called the Hermitage, having a famous collection of pictures, originally known as the Walpole Collection. I went to view the pictures one Sunday afternoon. The man in charge of the collection pointed my attention to a quantity of works of art, and said, "Here is the Kertch Collection." I said, "I thought they were all taken by our people" (Laughter). To which he replied, "Oh no; they were removed by order of the Emperor two years ago." That shows the premeditation of the man (Cheers). Those pictures had been removed at great cost and difficulty from Kertch to St. Petersburg two years before; and this proceeding leaves little doubt on my mind that there was a great design against the liberties of Europe. The Marble Palace is the residence of that "frank and open-hearted sailor," Constantine. How I laughed when I read that description of Constantine's character! (Laughter.) You may remember what has been said about the distinguished Admiral Constantine. With all respect to his Highness, I must say that I never saw a man who gave me less of the impression of a "frank and open-hearted sailor" (Cheers and laughter). It is all soft-sawder, you know (Laughter).

RUSSIAN HOTEL CHARGES.

There was not much to keep us in St. Petersburg, for we were so horribly fleeced by our innkeeper (Laughter). I have lived a great deal in that way, but I never in my life came across a man with such enormous ideas of the principles of "doing" (Loud laughter). I am a man who am satisfied with little, but our dinner every night cost us £60 sterling (Roars of laughter). It was perfectly monstrous. When we arrived at Moscow we were wearied, but not hungry, having had plenty to eat, for the quarter of an hour stoppages were apparently made for the express purpose of eating (Laughter).

THE GOVERNOR OF MOSCOW.

During the whole time I was in Russia I never saw such a brick as the Governor was (Roars of laughter). While quietly walking over an immense bridge at Nishni, smoking a cigar, I was seized by a Cossack, who nearly wrung my neck off, and who, holding his great weapon over my head, took me prisoner along the streets (Laughter). I could not speak a word to the fierce soldier, and was in something like the same position as the Englishman in France of whom Hood or Mathews sung:—

> Never go to France unless you know the lingo,
> Or else you will, like me, repent of it, by jingo.
> Staring like a fool, silent as a mummy,
> There I stood, looking 'nation like a dummy.

(Bursts of merriment.) We had nothing to sleep on, but had plenty to drink. I never saw a man with such a capacity for drinking as this brick of a Governor (Laughter); and no matter how much champagne he drank, I did not notice that he ever appeared affected by it (Laughter). He gave us a fête on the Volga.

THE AMBASSADORS AT THE CORONATION.

We were presented at the coronation by Count Morny, the French Ambassador—a spick-and-span man of considerable *aplomb*, and who, by the way, is one of the greatest speculators in the world. He speculates in everything, and bought a lot of pictures to sell again and make a profit of. Next to Count Morny stood the representative of a country which deserves the sympathies of all civilised people, Sardinia (Cheers)—General Dabormida. Then came the Ambassador of the smallest kingdom in Europe, Belgium, the Prince de Ligne, the very picture of swelling insignificance—so swelling, indeed, that he could not for the life of him look down from the contemplation of his own importance. Then there was that fine specimen of a man, Prince Esterhazy, the representative of Austria. Then the representative of Naples, of whom, in charity, I will say nothing. Then the Turkish representative, a clever Turk. Of course he was not admitted into the church. At the same time, you could not look at him without feeling that he was the representative of an effete and worn-out nation. It was impossible for Turkey to long resist the aggression of Russia without assistance. Then came the Papal representative, and, finally, that of this country, Lord Granville, than whom no one could more thoroughly represent a true Englishman. He was the representative of the most powerful nation of the world, yet plainly dressed.

RUSSIAN IMPROVEMENTS.

What I wish to impress upon you is, that you should not throw away your money to improve the internal condition of a country which will turn the benefits you confer to their own advantage (Cheers). I know not whether I have afforded some little entertainment, but if I have I am well pleased, and shall be glad to devote my little abilities at any time to your service. I would close my observation, with this sentiment, which cannot fail to be that of every one who hears me;—great as Russia is, when I contemplate the power of my own country, I would ten thousand times sooner repose in the lap of Britannia, the humblest citizen in the land, than own the allegiance or bow the knee to the power that sways the sceptre in Russia.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

IN consequence of the large number of troops who were required in the Crimea during the late war the authorities at the War-office were unable to complete the regiments serving in India to their proper establishment, but the Duke of Cambridge has now given directions for the whole of the regiments on the Indian establishment to be raised to their war strength as early as possible. With this view volunteering has been commenced from all those regiments on the home station which are above the prescribed establishment, and recruiting is also proceeding vigorously, it being the intention of the authorities to have the Indian regiments completed before the season for the embarkation of draughts from this country arrives. Upwards of 600 volunteers have arrived at the Provisional Battalion, Chatham, for the purpose of joining the various Indian dépôts of that garrison, the whole of whom will undergo a course of instruction in the use of the Enfield rifle.

ON Monday last 235 men of all ranks arrived at Chatham from regiments stationed in Ireland, as volunteers to those corps at Chatham garrison which are below their prescribed establishment.

ALL the mortar-vessels moored off Hardway (Gosport shore) have been shifted out into Portsmouth harbour stream on account of their swinging foul of the ships of the line and others moored in ordinary when the wind is from the westward. The wind having shifted round to the N.E., on Monday and Tuesday, the whole of the outward bound at the Motherbank, Spithead, and St. Helen's got away, with the exception of the American ship *Zurich*, detained at the Motherbank by a refractory crew.

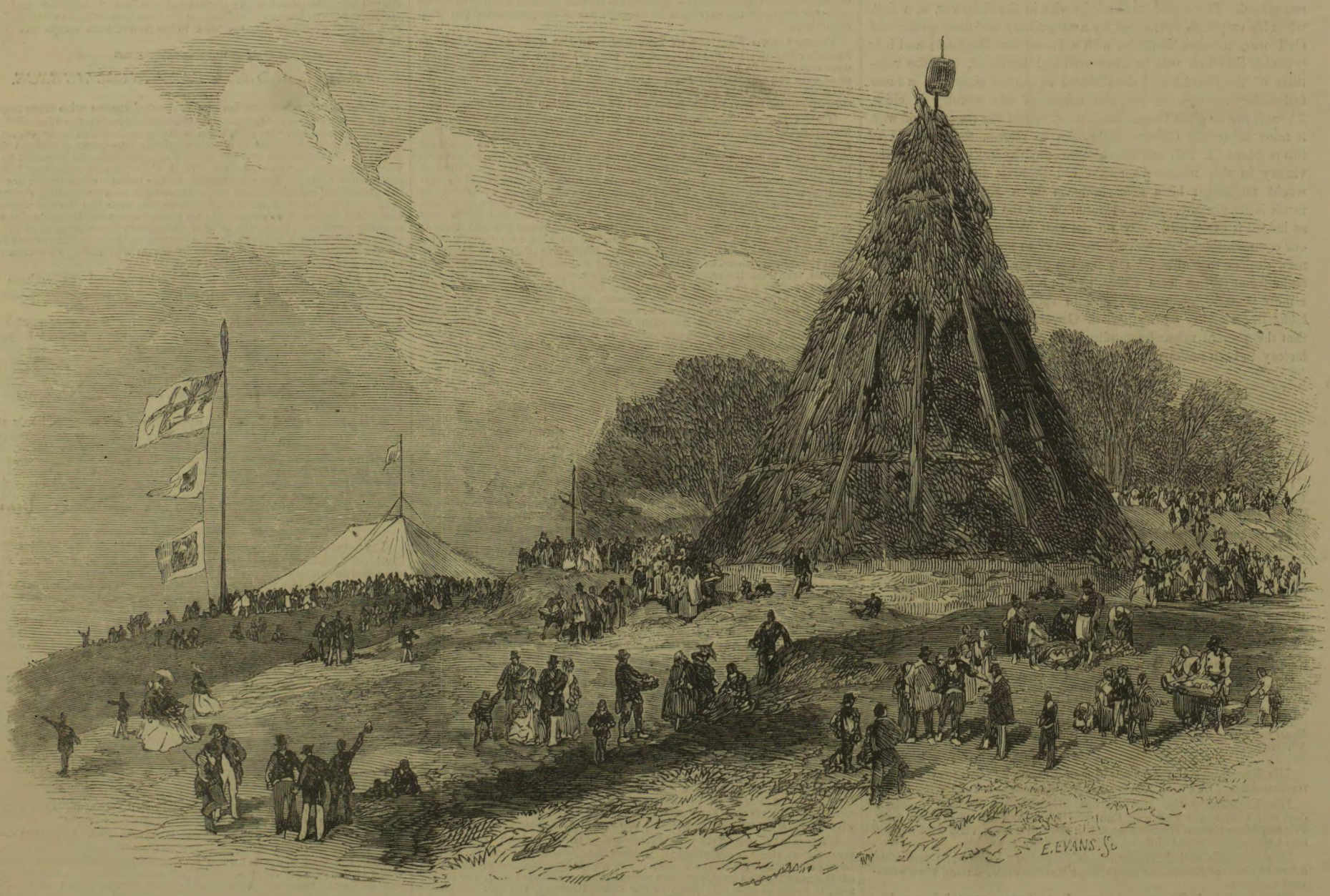
A SEVERE test of Clifford's apparatus for lowering boats at sea was made on Saturday last, in the gale then blowing, by Admiralty order, from H.M.S. store-ship *Dee*. While she was steaming at full speed, her starboard cutter, which had been fitted with Clifford's lowering apparatus, and was hanging immediately abaft the paddle-box, was manned with her full crew (nine men), and instantly and safely unlashed, lowered, and entirely freed from the ship by one of the crew only in the boat. It was scarcely possible to subject the plan to a more severe trial from the severity of the gale.

LIFE-BOAT SERVICES.—Some of the life-boats of the Royal National Life-boat Institution have, during the awful gale which visited the coast on Sunday last, been instrumental in saving many lives from shipwreck. On that day the Hauxley (Northumberland) life-boat, manned by twelve men, put off and rescued the crew of eleven men from the schooner *Sophie*, of Oporto. The sea was at the time making a complete breach over the vessel, which soon afterwards went to pieces. Later in the day the same life-boat, manned by the same intrepid crew, saved the crew of the *Georgina*, of Inverness, which, in stress of weather, had run on shore near Hauxley. On the same day (Sunday) the Filey life-boat put off and rescued the crew of nine hands in the brig *Ratcliffe*, of Whitby. She was unable to keep off the land from the violence of the gale and the partial loss of her sails. She afterwards sank. On Sunday the Rhyl life-boat rescued four men from a vessel which was wrecked opposite to that place. This life-boat had also, a few days previously, saved three of the crew of the *Mary Ann*, of Liverpool. On Monday the Walmer life-boat, which the National Life-boat Institution has just placed on that important station, saved the crew of eight men of the *Reliance*, of London, which was driven on shore by the gale near Walmer Castle. It is sincerely hoped that in the great and extraordinary exertions which this truly philanthropic society is now making to supply exposed points with efficient life-boats, liberal public support will be extended to it. It should be remembered, that a life-boat establishment, with its boat, carriage, house, and life-boats for the crew, cost about £350.

THROUGH BOOKING BETWEEN EUROPE AND AMERICA.—Mr. S. P. Bidder, the general manager of the Grand Trunk Railway, has arrived in England, with the view of making arrangements for his "through ticket system" from every shipping port of importance in Europe to any part of North America. Agreements have already been made by Mr. Bidder with all the leading railways of the United States by which passengers, whether emigrants or otherwise, will be passed to any part of Northern and Western America upon tickets issued to them in Europe.

ASHTON COURT FESTIVITIES.

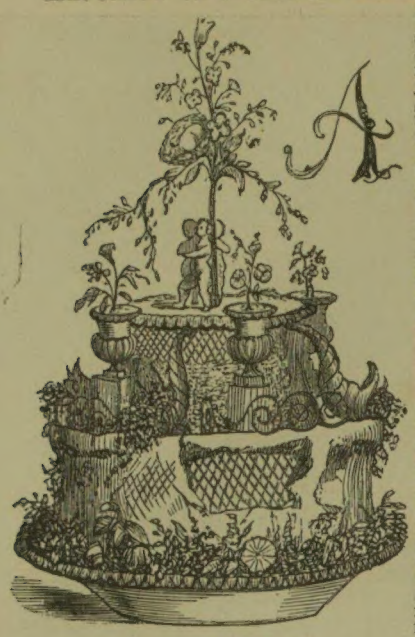
ASHTON COURT, NEAR BRISTOL.—MR. J. H. GREVILLE UPTON SMYTH DRINKING HIS TENANTRY'S HEALTH.



THE BONFIRE BEFORE LIGHTED.—(SEE PAGE 10.)

ASHTON COURT FESTIVITIES.—THE BONFIRE AND DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS.—SKETCHED FROM LONG ASHTON.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

MAJORITY OF J. H. GREVILLE SMYTH, ESQ.



THE BIRTHDAY CAKE.

ASHTON COURT the ancestral seat of the Smyth family, three miles from Bristol, has just been the scene of genuine old English festivity, to celebrate the coming of age of Mr. J. H. Greville Smyth, the youthful owner of the Ashton Court and Heath House estates, who attained his majority, and assumed possession of the rich inheritance which has descended to him through an ancient line, on Friday (last week). The occasion has been celebrated in a manner becoming the wealth and distinction of the young 'squire; and the rejoicings, although they may be said to have culminated upon the ancestral demesne, have extended their influence to other parts of the neighbourhood. A widespread hospitality has been extended to the rich, but, at the same time, a generous disposition has been manifested towards the needy.

The celebration of the majority was commenced soon after midnight. A park of artillery was stationed on the hill near the "tump," and their thunder breaking upon the stillness of the night announced that the legal time of probation had passed. The bells of the old church rang merrily; and, as the morning advanced, the towers of St. Mary Redcliff, St Stephen, Christ Church, St. Nicholas, and St. Mark, in Bristol, and from many a neighbouring village steeple, pealed forth their joyous welcome. The inhabitants of the neighbourhood were early astir: triumphal arches were built, flags were unfurled, and everything was made to wear a gala face. Thousands flocked, as the day progressed, towards the spot where the principal doings were announced to take place; and at five o'clock in the evening the promised bonfire and fireworks attracted such crowds that the road leading from the Angel, at Ashton, to Redcliffe-hill exhibited an unbroken line of sight-seers. At intervals along the line of route tokens of rejoicing were displayed. A triumphal arch gaily dressed with evergreens and flowers spanned the highway from the Star Tavern to the hauling-way to Gummer's Colliery. Another crossed the main road near the lower lodge, composed of laurels and ivy on a framework of firs and larches, and bore upon it a large white tablet, on which was inscribed, in illuminated letters of silver, blue, and crimson, "Welcome to the home of thy ancestors." The Lodge itself was ornamented. At the Angel Inn was a third triumphal arch, bearing the inscription "Long life to him." From the top of the old court floated the St. George's ensign; while the principal entrance-gate was tastefully decorated with the flags of some score friendly nations, supporting a white medallion inscribed with the word "Welcome."

Mr. Smyth's tenants assembled at ten o'clock in the morning at the Angel Inn, to make preparations for presenting to him an address of congratulation. Soon after eleven o'clock the tenants present, to the number of about 300, formed in procession, and, headed by Hinton's Clifton band, proceeded with their address to the Court. They entered by the lower lodge, and wound their way along the carriage-drive to the principal entrance, near to which a large concourse of persons had before assembled. Mr. Greville Smyth was in waiting upon the terrace, accompanied by his mother and sister, by the Rev. H. Way, and some other members of his family. The tenants having formed in front of the terrace, and having heartily cheered their new landlord,

Mr. Shattock then presented the address, to which Mr. Smyth having replied, came in front of the entrance, and mounting the top of a large barrel of strong beer specially brewed for the occasion, drank a bumper to the health of his tenants, who also in turn drunk "long life, happiness, and prosperity" to him.

The procession then re-formed, and proceeded to the tump on Ashton Hill for the purpose of partaking of the Tenants' Dinner, which had been furnished by subscription among themselves. The dinner, to which about 250 gentlemen sat down, was held in a spacious marquee erected for the purpose. The repast was supplied by Mr. F. E. Allen, of the Angel Inn, Bristol. The chair was taken by Mr. Shattock, who was supported by J. Nalder, Esq.; H. Bennett, Esq.; the Rev. Mr. Haynes, of Ashton; the Rev. Mr. Coles, of Flax Bourton, &c.

After the removal of the cloth, the Chairman gave the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, which were drunk with honours. He then proposed the toast of the evening—their young landlord's good health (Cheers)—might he live long to enjoy his princely heritage, and might he live, too, in the enjoyment of all happiness himself, and in the hearts of a prosperous and contented tenantry (Cheers). He would give them "The health of Mr. Smyth, of Ashton Court." The toast was received with great cheering, which was renewed upon a farmer with stentorian lungs calling out, "Long life and a good wife to him!"

Mr. Eaton returned thanks on behalf of Mr. Smyth. He (Mr. Eaton) could assure them that the good feeling of the tenantry was strongly reciprocated by Mr. Smyth, and it was to be hoped that the joyous demonstration of that day would prove to be a foretaste of a lasting union between the tenantry of Ashton Court and their landlord (Cheers).

"The health of Mr. Arthur Way," "The health of Mrs. Upton, and happiness to her and her family," and "The health of the Chairman," were then drunk with cheers. After a few other toasts, the company rose.

THE BONFIRE

was lighted at three o'clock, but it was many hours before anything of a blaze was obtained. It was of colossal dimensions, covering an area of 111 feet in circumference, and was composed of 60 cords of wood, 50 tar-barrels, 10 tons of coal, 1500 bundles of faggots, and several waggon-loads of dried fern, underwood, and other inflammable materials. The great altitude at which it was placed enabled it to be seen from elevations many miles distant.

THE FIREWORKS,

by Professor Burn, comprised many flights of fifty rockets each, together with a great number of set pieces, amongst which were the following:—A grand fixed or brilliant piece, which commenced with a number of snakes in pursuit of butterflies, changing to a military order in Chinese fires, then to twelve vertical wheels, displaying crimson and purple lights; and again to a splendid fixed piece, composed of brilliant fires representing five Royal stars, reported. A splendid balloon, completely encircled in fireworks, after burning some time as a fixed piece, was by the means of tremendous skyrockets and other fireworks propelled into the air, and, when at its greatest altitude, discharged an immense quantity of carmine, green, and purple stars, with rockets, Roman candles, jerbs, mines, and other brilliant fireworks.

The arrangements for the ball—the invitations to which were on a most extensive scale—were all ably carried out under the direction of Mr. Fitz Way. All the apartments of the Court were brought into requisition. The entrance-halls, lobbies, and staircases were lined with rare flowery shrubs; and the reception-room, supper-room, &c., were decorated with great elegance. The music-hall was also thrown open, and Mr. Frederick Huxtable presided at the great organ, and played with his known skill several fine compositions. The dancing took place in the library, which Messrs. Garaway, Mayes, and Co., of the Durdham down Nurseries, had dressed profusely with wreaths, festoons, and ornaments of evergreens and flowers. Quadrilles, waltzes, &c., followed each other in rapid succession until one o'clock, at which hour the Ball Supper was announced. It was provided by Warren, of Clifton, and was of the most sumptuous and *recherché* character. The repast was laid in the great dining-room upon a semicircular, a centre and two side tables. The health of the youthful host was drunk with enthusiasm, and acknowledged by him. The company returned to the ball-room and resumed the dance, which was kept up with spirit.

We regret that we have not space for the list of the company. Among the distinguished persons invited were—The Duchess of Beaufort, Lady Carew, Hon. Mrs. Elton, Lady A. Elton, Lady Frazer, Lady Emily Gray, Hon. Mrs. Howard, Lady Anna Gore Langton, Lady Methuen, Hon. Mrs. Tollemache, Lady Eardley Wilmot, Lady Morgan, Lady Steele, Lady Auckland, Lady Charlotte Law; the Duke of Beaufort, Lord Methuen, Lord Hinton, Hon. F. H. Berkeley, M.P.; W. H. G. Langton, M.P.; W. P. G. Langton, M.P.; W. Miles, M.P.; W. F. Knatchbull, M.P.; R. B. Hale, M.P.; J. Wilson, M.P.; Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol; Right Rev. Viscount Auckland, Bishop of Bath and Wells; the Hon. Reginald Capel, Very Rev. Dean of Bristol, Very Rev. Dean of Wells, Sir Walter Carew, Sir John Davis, Sir A. H. Elton, Sir John Frazer, Sir Charles Mordaunt, Sir Charles Morgan, Sir J. E. Eardley Wilmot, Sir Charles Young, General Godby, General Worrall, General Cumberland, &c.

It is said that the late Mr. Richard Vaughan Yates' property will be expended in the erection of a People's College, in Prince's-park, Birkenhead.

ILLUSTRATED GIFT-BOOKS.*

ONE of the healthiest indications of the love of books in the present day is the fact of their having become the customary *presents* at holiday seasons, in place of costly articles of less enduring interest. The change began some thirty years since, with "the Annual," which nearly drove out of the book market the picture pocket-books, which had formed the illustrated diary and "gurnal" of many a blue-stocking. But the reign of the Annuals was of brief effulgence: their literature grew weak, and the public tired of their sentimentalities, though embellished with steel-plate engravings at the rate of a hundred guineas a page. To the Annuals has succeeded a hardier race of books, mostly consisting of reprints of standard works, or selections from standard authors, produced with the combined advantages of picturesque illustration, fine printing, and the ornate excess of bookbinding. Of this class are the choicest Gift-books of the present season. Their exteriors are rich in artistic ornamentation of gold and colour; but, before glancing at the art and literature which they enshrine, we should pay our respects to the last of the brilliant bevy of which we have just spoken, namely,

The Keepsake for 1857, which, under the editorship of Miss Power, maintains its renown for gracefully-written *nouvelettes*, traits of travel and adventure, and elegant trifles in verse and prose. In the roll of contributors are Mrs. Abdy, Mrs. Barrett Browning, Mrs. Newton Crosland, Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Octavius Freire Owen, and Miss Power. Barry Cornwall sends some lines "To an Old Playmate;" Albert Smith a "Mont Blanc" paper "About Chamois and Hunters;" and Nathaniel Hawthorne a few pages about Dr. Johnson and his father at Uttoxeter—"a shock of the Actual with the Ideal." There are two interesting "Tales of the War;" and Mr. Bennoch has gracefully invested with kindred interest some tributary lines accompanying the portrait of Lady Grey. These notes, however, convey but a scant idea of the varied attraction of the papers. Lady Molesworth, from Thorburn's whole-length miniature; Mrs. Palk, by Desanges; and the Lady Violet, by Margaret Gillies; are the gems of the portrait embellishments, which, with the other illustrations, have been engraved under the careful eye of Mr. Frederick A. Heath.

We now come to the new class of Gift-books, in which highly-finished engraving on wood multiplies to profusion the number and picturesque variety of the subjects; and *toned* paper and fine printing heighten their artistic beauty. The first specimen we have is Sir Walter Scott's *Lord of the Isles*, part of which he composed some two-and-forty years since, in the presence of his family and casual visitors, in his cottage at Abbotsford; "neither conversation nor music seeming to disturb him." The frontispiece is Turner's picture of the majestic sublimity of Skye, delicately engraved on steel by H. Le Keux; the vignette is the same great painter's Staffa, engraved by E. Goodall. The illustrations exceed seventy in number; the figure subjects by John Gilbert, and the localities by Birket Foster, exquisitely engraved on wood by J. W. Whymper and Edmund Evans, and successfully rendering Scott's "glow of colouring, energy of narrative, and amplitude of description." Mr. Gilbert gives us some of the finest impersonations of the story of Bruce and Bannockburn; his vignettes to the cantos are poetic gems; whilst Mr. Foster revels in the rude scenery of Skye and Arran, and the coasts of Argyleshire and Ayrshire; and never had landscape-painter a finer succession of castled craig and ocean wildness than these localities present. The result is a set of charming illustrations. The binding, in red and blue, and gold, and the heraldic emblazonry, have the rich effect of a painted window.

The Book of Job, "the oldest poem in the world," has been illustrated with fifty engravings, from drawings by John Gilbert, with variety and fancy, which he has rarely if ever excelled; more especially in the Eastern character of the scenery, and the characteristics of its animal life; the supernatural incidents and localities of the Patriarch's life; its "vivid pictures of the husbandman, the warrior, the traveller, the sportsman, the stately magnate, and the starving outcast of that departed era." How picturesquely Mr. Gilbert has embodied the incidental attractions in which the sacred poem is unusually rich it would occupy long to tell: as the Patriarch, in his many phases of sorrow and suffering, of bereavement and despair; the heavenly vision and earthly joy; the voice from the whirlwind and the doors of the deep; the charger clothed with thunder, and the leviathan making the deep to boil like a pot; and a score of other scenes and incidents which we have not space to enumerate. The engravers are the Dalziels, Whymper, and Thomas. The editor's chapter of "The Patriarch and the Poem," and his Explanatory Notes and Poetic Parallels, are characterised by reverential and eloquent feeling. The binding—a rich, Oriental design, in gold upon a blue ground—is extremely beautiful.

Of similar character, though more severe in manner, is *The Course of Time*, by Robert Pollok, A.M., illustrated with engravings from drawings by Tenniel, Clayton, and Birket Foster; the picturesqueness of the latter artist relieving the pre-Raphaelite designs of his associates. The poet's descriptions of the spiritual life and destiny of man, and his episodal pictures and narratives of the effects of virtue and vice, are vividly embodied by the artists, whose success will, doubtless, extend the fame of "The Course of Time." From a memoir prefixed to the poem we learn that it was mostly composed by the author in bed; that it has gone through twenty editions; and that the publishers paid for the copyright £2500—"a price greatly exceeding that given for the poems of Scott or Campbell, nearly as large as ever was paid to any poet in the height of his fame." The engravings are nicely executed by the Dalziels, Evans, and Green. The green and gold binding is elegant.

Rhymes and Roundelayes in Praise of a Country Life, Adorned with many Pictures, is the quaint seventeenth-century title of tasteful Selections, principally from the English Poets, grouped under Sunrise and Morning, Spring, Songs of the Birds, Spring Flowers, Summer, Flocks and Herds, Rural Scenery, Autumn, Harvest, Woods and Streams, Winter, Country Sports, Christmas Tide, Evening and Night. The choice is as judicious as the variety is attractive, ranging from the Fletchers and Herrick to Wordsworth and Thomas Miller. The illustrations consist principally of whole-page scenes in Country Life, drawn by Duncan, Dodgson, Foster, H. Weir, S. Read, Hulme; with a few figure subjects by Frederick Tayler and John Absolon. The landscape-painters are here in great strength, and the book, in subject, character, and execution, is in pure English taste. The illustration is completed by the ornamental headings by T. R. Macquoid and Noel Humphreys, and tailpieces by Jane E. Hay; these accessories exhibiting rich and appropriate fancy, and lively and sparkling effect. Among the larger subjects, "A Summer Evening," and "Sunrise by the Ocean Side," by Foster; the "Bramble-Brake and Hill Scene," by Duncan; the "Village Inn," by Foster; Sheep-Washing" and the "Heron in the Stream," by Weir; the "Church and Mill," by E. Goodall; the "Woodland," by S. Read; the "Robin," by W. Goodall; and some of the frost scenes; are of prominent beauty. The engravers are Evans, Cooper, Whymper, Green, &c. The binding—the rose and forget-me-not, in gold upon crimson—is in rich taste.

Let the London publishers look well to their laurels. There is a competitor in the field who promises to equal, if not to excel, them in the production of gorgeous books; and this competitor lives and works in a small provincial town, and impresses Hertford, not London, upon his titlepages. Mr. Stephen Austin, the proprietor of the *Herts Reformer*, and a bookseller in Hertford, has lately devoted much of his time and attention to the publication of works connected with Oriental literature. He undertakes the printing and publication of MSS. in Sanskrit, Bengálí, Arabic, Persian, Pushto, Hindústání, Hindí, Hebrew, and Syriac, as well as of illustrated works in general literature. In token of her Majesty's approval of the skill and good taste shown by him in the illustrations and binding of the Sanskrit drama of "Sakoontalá," and the services thereby rendered to the improvement of art, he has received a gold medal from Queen Victoria. He has also received a gold medal from the Empress of the French, as well as the first-class medal of the French Universal Exhibition of 1855. *Sakoontalá; or, the Lost Ring*, the Indian drama, by Kálidása, which has called forth the display of Mr. Austin's taste and judgment as a printer and illustrator, is a work of which the author was contemporary with Virgil. He flourished in India in the reign of Vikramaditya. The beauties of the drama were first made known to the English public by Sir William Jones; but his translation being in prose, and in some respects defective and inelegant, besides being unaccompanied by explanatory notes, a new translation was made by Mr. Monier Williams, the Professor of Sanskrit at Haileybury College. Its merits as a dramatic poem are of a high order. M. De Lamartine, in his "Cours Familier de la Litterature," pronounces it to be "a *chef-d'œuvre*, at once epical and dramatic, comprising in its action all that is most pastoral in the Bible, most pathetic in Æschylus, and most tender in Racine." As regards typography the volume is a masterpiece of English art. As regards illustration—though the merits of the designs are not to be placed to the credit of English genius, the titles and margins being copied from Indian originals in the library of the East India House, and in the British Museum—the execution is in the highest degree creditable to the taste, the industry, and the mechanical resources of the publisher. For those who desire to possess the volume for its poetical merits, and do not wish to incur the expense of the richly-embellished work, which has gone through two editions, a cheaper reprint, without illustrations, has been issued. It augurs well for the public interest in Indian literature, that in this form "Sakoontalá" is in its third edition.

* "The Keepsake for 1857." Edited by Miss Power. Bogue.
"The Lord of the Isles." By Sir Walter Scott, Bart. Illustrated by numerous Engravings on Wood, from Drawings by Birket Foster and John Gilbert. Adam and Charles Black.
"The Book of Job." Illustrated with Fifty Engravings, from Drawings by John Gilbert. Nisbet and Co.
"The Course of Time." By Robert Pollok, A.M. Blackwood and Sons.
"Rhymes and Roundelayes in Praise of a Country Life." Adorned with many Pictures. Bogue.
"Sakoontalá; or, the Lost Ring. A Free Translation, in Prose and Verse, of Kálidása's Drama." By Monier Williams, M.A., Professor of Sanskrit at Haileybury College; formerly Boden Scholar in the University of Oxford. Hertford: Stephen Austin.

MUSIC.

A NEW CHORAL SOCIETY, in the style of the German *Liedertafel*, has just been set on foot. The following extract from a prospectus issued by its originators will sufficiently explain its nature and objects:—

Extremely little has yet been done in England towards realising the beautiful and extraordinary effects derivable from large bodies under a perfect state of discipline. With the view of removing this defect, a large number of the ladies and gentlemen who assisted at the performances given by Madame Goldschmidt at Exeter Hall have formed themselves into a large vocal association, on the model of those already referred to. Its constitution will be framed to render it, as far as possible, acceptable to all classes of society; and its practices, it is hoped, will be found equally instructive and agreeable. At its rehearsals the celebrated compositions used by the German associations will be gradually introduced, together with many others less known by Italian and English writers. These will be practised with the most exact and scrupulous care; and it is confidently expected that, in this way, a singing association will ere long be established in London which will rival, if not excel, the best on the Continent. In order still more clearly to define its objects, the projectors of the Vocal Association wish to be distinctly understood that it offers no kind of substitute for the preliminary labours of the singing-master; but, on the contrary, that all who wish to join its practices should have had some instruction in singing, and have gained, at least, a tolerable facility in what is called "reading at sight."

It is necessary only to add, that the society has wisely sought and obtained the important services of Mr. Benedict in the capacity of director; and that it is to commence operations immediately.

MONSIEUR JULLIEN'S CONCERTS.—A new English tenor, named Croft, has lately made his début in the provinces at the above concerts; and it appears from the local journals that he has already established himself in public favour. Mr. Croft is a native of Liverpool, but has studied the musical profession in Italy with great success. His voice is "sympathetic," and his execution characterised by great power as well as sweetness.

BEAUMONT INSTITUTION, MILE-END.—The second concert of the season, under the direction of Mr. Francis, took place on Jan. 5; the room being densely crowded in every part. Mr. Sims Reeves was in excellent voice. He sang Handel's song, "Waft her, angels," with a pathos and grandeur of style, proving him to be without a rival in this the most difficult of music. He was encored in Hatton's new song, "Under the greenwood tree;" substituting for it "Good by, sweetheart;" and also in the "Death of Nelson," which, notwithstanding the uproarious applause, he naturally declined to repeat. Madame Clara Novello was eminently successful in the air from "Lucrezia Borgia," "Com' è bello;" in Macfarren's charming ballad, "The Captive of Agincourt;" and encored in the Scotch song, "Bonnie Prince Charlie," for which she substituted "Within a mile." Miss Louisa Vinning sang magnificently Vengano's valse, "Ah che assorta," giving ample proof, by the brilliancy of her execution of this difficult aria di bravura, of her being as accomplished a vocalist in the Italian school, as on a late occasion, in the "Messiah," at Exeter-hall. She was rapturously encored in it, as she was likewise in Frank Mori's very popular ballad, "The rustic gate." Mr. Allan Irving was much admired in Verdi's aria from "Il Trovatore," "Il balen;" and Benedict's fine song, "Rage, thou angry storm." He was also very effective in the duet with Miss L. Vinning, "Udiote come." Mr. Carder evinced great improvement in his performances on the organ; and Mr. Hatton, besides accompanying the vocal music very efficiently, sang his own very spirited "Christmas Sleigh-ride."

THE THEATRES.

ADELPHI.—A clever new farce, all hurry and bustle, and effective after its kind, was produced on Monday, *apropos* the burglars and garotters of the present day, entitled "A Night at Notting-hill;" in which Mr. Wright, as *Alderman Syllabub*, enacts a householder in the dangerous neighbourhood above indicated, and who provides himself with detonating-boxes and man-traps for his protection against the criminal intruders of whom he lives in constant dread. The situation is amusing, and, with Mr. Wright's exaggerations, was rendered exceedingly so. There is also a prominent character performed by Mrs. Chatterley—*Mrs. Chutney*, the alderman's housekeeper, whose matronly terrors are the jest of the housemaid *Lizzy* (admirably acted by Miss Mary Keeley), the favourite of the policeman *O'Mutton* (Mr. Frank Hall), whose sly doings constitute the only cause of real alarm to the terrified family. The householder, the housekeeper, and the housemaid make a trio of humorous persons, whose absurd fears and intrigues constantly excite the merriment of the audience. This very successful trifle is the joint production of Mr. Yates and Mr. Harrington.

ALARMING CONDITION OF SPAIN.—The situation of Catalonia becomes worse and worse, and the friends of the Government do not conceal their fears of the gravest conflicts. The Government shows itself very reserved, even with its confidants. It is stated on the very best authority that the Ministry has received to-day a despatch from General Zapatero, Captain-General of Barcelona, stating that 30,000 workmen were perambulating the streets demanding bread. An insurrection had not commenced, but there were all the symptoms of one. The General adds that he could not dream for an instant of suppressing it by force. Grave abuses are committed at different points of the Peninsula by the mayors. Several inhabitants belonging to the Liberal party have been arrested and kept in prison for several days, without knowing the reasons of the detention. The priests still abound in Spain, and the Government acted wisely in 1855 in prohibiting further ordinations. In each of the miserable hamlets of Manche there are ten, fifteen, and sometimes twenty priests. I know one village, containing scarcely 1800 inhabitants, in which there are not less than fifty-four priests—a most ignorant class, who spend their days in smoking cigarettes. The press in Spain is now entirely handed over to the arbitrary power of the civil governor, and to the censors named by the Minister of the Interior.—*Letter from Madrid, Jan. 1.*

A requisition, numerously signed, was presented on Monday last to William Wood, Esq., of Monkhill House, near Pontefract, calling upon that gentleman to allow himself to be put in nomination for the borough of Pontefract upon the next vacancy that may occur. Mr. Wood has accepted the invitation.

The King of Sardinia has again nominated the Marquis Alfieri di Sostegno President of the Senate; and MM. de Nevache and Siccardi, Vice-Presidents, for the Session of 1857.

Prince Adolphus de Sayer Wittgenstein Hohenstein, formerly Minister of Hesse-Darmstadt in Austria, has just died suddenly at Frankfort.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

ON Monday last the first cargo of art-treasures was received within the Exhibition building at Manchester. It was a remarkable cargo, containing those long-coveted treasures, the pick of the Meyrick and Douce collections. Case 1 contained a knight on horseback, both in full armour, and twenty men of these degenerate days were barely sufficient to carry Sir Paladin and his steed within the walls of the Exhibition. Case 2—hardly of smaller dimensions—covered three of the finest suits of armour in the collection. Another case contained swords and maces of marvellous workmanship and rarity, wielded in knightly days by men after the model of Richard Cœur de Lion and Lord Herbert of Cherbury. Smaller cases, of every variety of shape and size, carried in marvellous safety caskets of ivory elaborately carved with stories such as Ariosto and Spenser loved to sing, and Froissart to describe in imperishable prose. A richer or more varied first cargo was never admitted within the walls of any exhibition. Every thing—thanks to the diligence and care of Mr. Deane, who watched them from Goderich to Manchester—arrived uninjured. In a case by itself the active and faithful Commissioner brought the very fine Sir Peter Lely of Nell Gwyn with a lamb—a proper pendant to the charming Lely of "La Belle Hamilton," at Hampton Court; and in his deepest pocket, protected by swansdown of the softest and purest kind, he carried (keeping his left hand slightly pressing on his treasure) the two miniatures, by Holbein, of Henry VIII. and Anne of Cleves—those marvellous miniatures, in their original heraldic cases of ivory, which excited the cupidity of Horace Walpole, and drove Douce half crazy with delight. In no other portrait is "bluff King Hal" seen so fully to the life. He does all but speak to Wolsey or Anne Boleyn; and in no other miniature do we see Anne of Cleves so fair, so fresh—as if three hundred years had passed over her comely looks, as they have done over Holbein's colours, without the faintest indication of decay. The beauty of the Anne of Cleves miniature gave Henry another wife, and cost Cromwell his head. How delightful to see and linger over a miniature like this,—exquisite as a work of art, and rich at the same time in historical associations! These miniatures have been seen by very few people. They were not shown at Goderich; and the latest editor of Walpole's anecdotes (Mr. Wornum, the Secretary to the National Gallery) was unacquainted with their whereabouts. Manchester, in May next, will reveal the lurking quarters of many treasures long lost to the most prying and best-informed of collectors.

We are glad to find instructive and agreeable narrators of travel, are not entirely extinct. Mr. Russell (the Special Correspondent of the *Times*) has the art of telling in a very few words, and those the proper words, the very things best worth telling. But he has a rival this week in Sir Robert Peel, who gallops through Russia in a lecture, and amazes and amuses his hearers by the vivacity of his manners the vigour of his descriptions, and the odd kind of skill he indulges in, of skipping from one subject of moment to another of equal interest, but wholly unlike what he has at that moment given the go-by to. Travellers who publish may safely take a lesson of importance from Mr. Russell's "Notes of his Russian Tour," and lecturers (Mr. Thackeray excepted) may copy with advantage the lively manner of Sir Robert Peel.

A private theatre at Tavistock House reads like the announcement in bygone days of private theatricals at Bedford House or Richmond House, with this exception, that when we are aware that Tavistock House is the London residence of Mr. Charles Dickens we are at once assured that a play under his roof and under his superintendence, and with his friends, must be something far more agreeable to sit through than any representation made by people however fashionable, or in houses infinitely larger than the house which Mr. Dickens inhabits. Tuesday last witnessed the first of four nights on which Mr. Dickens treats his friends—a large and influential circle—to a new play from the pen of Mr. Wilkie Collins, and to new scenery from the pencil of Mr. Clarkson Stanfield. The title of the Tavistock House production is "The Frozen Deep;" and Mr. Collins, so say his many admirers, has made a stride in his art in this telling and well-told play. The acting was all but excellent throughout. No professed actors now on the stage could have played with equal ability the parts sustained by Mr. Mark Lemon and Mr. Charles Dickens. The last night is on Wednesday, the 14th inst.

And we are never more to hear the pleasant voice or see the genial smile of little Britton. New Year's Day robbed us of an old friend who has done more than any man of his age to preserve and explain the architectural antiquities of Great Britain. Born with an ardent love of whatever is beautiful in architecture, or venerable in point of antiquity, he possessed at the same time the very rare art of bringing those particular men about him who could most efficiently aid him in his labours. Thus he brought Mackenzie, the most admirable of architectural draughtsmen; and Le Keux, the most inimitable of architectural engravers, to the illustration of his "Cathedral Antiquities"—a noble monument of his taste, his industry, and his tact. If we would fully understand the value of Mr. Britton's services, we should compare his labours with the works of Buck and Grose, and with the loose illustrations of our antiquities to be found in the best of our county historians. Even the faithful Hollar is faithless when compared with Mackenzie and Le Keux.

MANBY TESTIMONIAL.—At a meeting held recently at the Institution of Civil Engineers, the following resolutions were passed:—Resolved unanimously: "That Mr. Charles Manby, who has for upwards of seventeen years held the post of secretary of the Institution of Civil Engineers, having retired from the more active duties of the office, the present is a fitting occasion to acknowledge the important services rendered by Mr. Manby during his tenure of office, as well as his general usefulness to the profession." Resolved: "That the following gentlemen be a committee to carry out the above object:—The Council of the Institution of Civil Engineers, and Messrs. T. E. Blackwell, T. R. Crampton, W. T. Doyne, G. W. Hemans, J. E. M'Connell, G. Peel, members; and Messrs. J. G. Appold, J. Freeman, John Hamilton, jun., W. Piper, J. Allen Ransome, G. F. White, and T. H. Wyatt, associates, with power to add to their number." At a subsequent meeting of the committee it was resolved: "That the object of the committee being to make the testimonial as general as possible, each subscription be limited to two guineas." Mr. G. P. Bidder has been requested to act as treasurer to the fund, and Mr. James Forrest has been appointed to act as honorary secretary.

BIDDER ON MENTAL CALCULATION.—The two important papers read last session to the Institution of Civil Engineers by Mr. Bidder, upon his process of mental calculation, have, by permission of the council, been reprinted from the Proceedings, under the editorship of Mr. Charles Manby, F.R.S., secretary to the institution—they extend to thirty-two closely-printed pages. An outline of these papers, accompanying the portrait of Mr. Bidder, appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for March 15, 1856.

PENSION TO THE ROYAL FAMILY OF OUDE.—It is rumoured that despatches have recently been forwarded to India by which a pension is assigned to the Royal family of Oude on a most liberal scale. If report be correct, the grant amounts to twelve lacs of rupees, or £120,000, per annum, and is in perpetuity. It is said that there is, further, a proviso permitting the commutation of five lacs of the stipend for jageer or territorial property, yielding that sum annually. The ex-King will henceforth be in the position of a great English nobleman, with an ample revenue and estate—a good exchange for a turbulent kingdom and a doubtful future.—*Smith and Elder's Mail*, Jan. 1.

Miss Nightingale has arrived at her father's residence, near Romsey, in Hampshire. She dined with Lord and Lady Palmerston, at Broadlands, on the 2nd inst.

THE LIVINGSTON TESTIMONIAL.

A great meeting was held in the Egyptian-hall, Mansion House, on Tuesday last, the Lord Mayor in the chair, the object being to devise the best means of presenting a testimonial to Dr. Livingston, the African traveller. The hall was filled in every part.

The Lord Mayor, in opening the business of the day, said he might venture to assure the company present that the most gratifying event connected with his mayoralty was, that the first meeting in that hall was for the purpose of paying a national tribute of admiration and praise to Dr. Livingston, the great traveller in South Africa (Loud cheers). The importance of Dr. Livingston's travels in South Africa could not sufficiently be appreciated. The labours in which he had been engaged for the last sixteen years as a missionary had enabled him to explore a vast continent hitherto almost unknown; and those labours could not fail to be of the greatest advantage to the civilised world, whether those researches had reference to the spread of Christianity or to the extension of commerce (Hear). It appeared that in Central South Africa a vast territory existed which was capable of producing every raw material of which this or any other country stood in need. After a few more remarks he called upon the Lord Bishop of London to move the first resolution.

The Bishop of London, who was received with cheers, then read the following resolution:—"That this meeting, consisting of the merchants, bankers, and others, the citizens of London, hereby present to the Rev. Dr. Livingston their sincere congratulations on the signal care and protection of Divine Providence, vouchsafed to him throughout his prolonged and perilous labours in exploring the interior of South Africa; and the meeting cherishes the gratifying assurance that the important discoveries of Dr. Livingston will tend hereafter greatly to advance the interests of civilisation, knowledge, commerce, and freedom among the numerous tribes and nations of that vast continent" (Applause.) It was a great privilege that they should be permitted to meet together, in the centre of the greatest commercial metropolis in the world, to express their thanks to Divine Providence for allowing Dr. Livingston to be brought back in safety from the perils which he had undergone; and the meeting, he trusted, would be permitted to hope that, when he was about to return to that country where his heart was devoted to the service of his Lord, the same Providence would continue to protect him. It was, indeed, most gratifying to meet here to express an opinion in respect to what Dr. Livingston had done. It was most gratifying to find that civilisation, the spirit of commercial enterprise, and the missionary cause should go hand in hand; and in the person of Dr. Livingston they had all these three united. There was a lesson for themselves in this great man which probably those whom he addressed would not be slow to apply, that they ought never to separate common secular pursuits from those that worked the glory of God. A few years ago it was said that the age of heroism was past; but the lie had been given to that by the brilliant instances which had recently occurred; and whilst they celebrated those cases in our own country, it was most satisfactory to find that in far distant fields, uncheered by applause, this man whom they met to honour carried on his heroic enterprise, deserving and commanding the praise of his countrymen more than others to whom they had been ready to award it (Loud applause).

Mr. Raikes Currie, M.P., said he felt it an honour to address the meeting on this occasion, and to second the resolution which had been so ably put by the right rev. Prelate, the Bishop of London. He thought they could not better inaugurate their proceedings than by joining in all heartiness and sincerity in welcoming Dr. Livingston, the apostle of civilisation and Christianity.

Dr. Livingston, who was received with great enthusiasm, here gave a brief account of some of the districts visited by him, confining himself, however, mainly to a geographical description. He stated that he intended to write an account of his travels, to which he referred those present for more minute information. The Zambese river would, he said, form a great highway into Southern Africa. If they entered this river, as they might do, in a steamer of light draught, the country on each side would be found flat, covered with coarse grass and a few cocoanut and mango trees, forming a delta much larger than Scotland, and intersected with numerous streams. He knew all the country through which Mr. Gordon Cumming and others had hunted, and it produced nothing like the number of elephants which were in the district beyond Tete. Here, too, the country was exceedingly fertile. Unfortunately there had been Kaffir wars in that region, the natives being led into them by people of Portuguese extraction, and as they had no mother country to bear the expense, the Portuguese had been rather hotly pressed, and had, in fact, been shut up in their fortress at Tete for something like two years. With respect to our own Kaffir wars he did not mean to say much; but they had always wanted a *Times* commissioner out there, and he believed that if one of those gentlemen had been intrusted with a mission before the last war this country would have saved more than £2,000,000 sterling. These *Times* commissioners ought to be considered one of our domestic institutions; and if we had a proper transport-service and a *Times* commissioner at the Cape he believed we should never have another Kaffir war. Dr. Livingston concluded his description by again referring the audience to his promised work for fuller information.

The resolution proposed was then put and unanimously agreed to.

Sir R. Murchison moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting, highly appreciating the intrepidity and perseverance of Dr. Livingston in his extended and dangerous journeys, deems it incumbent to originate a pecuniary tribute as an expression of their admiration and gratitude for his disinterested and self-denying labours in the cause of science and philanthropy." It was impossible that such services as had been performed by Dr. Livingston could have escaped the observation of the Government, and the Earl of Clarendon had taken every opportunity to befriend that gentleman after he knew Dr. Livingston was on the coast of Africa. More than this, he (Sir R. Murchison) was privileged to say that his Lordship was aware of the opinion of some men of science—namely, that a person possessing the powers of the distinguished traveller whom they were now met to honour should be doubly occupied—occupied not only in advancing Christianity through the country he explored, but filling at the same time some public station by which, along our great frontier lines, he might prevent the calamities of war, and save both money and life.

The resolution was seconded by Colonel Sykes, and unanimously agreed to.

Mr. J. Dillon moved, and Mr. S. Gurney seconded, the opening of a subscription towards a fund to be called "The Livingston Testimonial Fund." Another resolution proposed by Mr. Sheriff Mechi and seconded by Mr. Alderman Wire, provided for the appointment of a committee.

Mr. Montgomery Martin added some remarks confirmatory of the value of Dr. Livingston's discoveries, founded on some personal acquaintance with the coast of Africa; after which the proceedings terminated.

LIFE IN THE FAR WEST.—A bloody tragedy was performed at the Baldwin House in this city (Monmouth, Illinois) this afternoon (Dec 12.) I was conversing with a gentleman in Dr. Thayer's drug-store about two o'clock, when the terrible cry of "Murder!" was heard; and we all started out to discover the cause. We were soon directed by the throng of people to the above-named hotel, distant only a few yards; and there, weltering in their blood, lay the victims of the most sanguinary single-hand conflict it has been my lot to witness. It is impossible to describe the horror depicted on the visages of that throng of spectators called there at a moment's warning. The circumstances are as follow:—A Mr. Fleming, an elderly gentleman, and two sons, about 25 to 28 years of age, had called upon a Mr. Crosier, at his rooms at the Baldwin House, armed each with a loaded pistol, to coerce the latter gentleman into a concession and retractation of a calumny affecting their daughter and sister, with which they charged Mr. Crosier. Mr. Crosier, after some pretty warm language had passed between the parties, agreed to, and did sign, a retractation, in the presence of a friend whom the Messrs. Fleming had brought with them. Immediately after delivering the paper into the possession of their friend, the Messrs. Fleming, or one of the brothers, says to Mr. Crosier, "I am now going to cowhide you;" and one of the boys, holding a cocked pistol to his head, directed the other to inflict the threatened punishment, which he immediately commenced. He had struck three or four blows, when Crosier pulled a dirk-knife from a side-pocket, and, passing at the same time his left arm around the neck of the one who plied the lash, stabbed him in the left breast, and, as quick as thought, withdrew the knife and struck the one who held the pistol a back-handed blow which reached, as did the first, to the heart of his victim. Both brothers received their death-wounds in less than two seconds, and were both bloody corpses in three minutes after they were struck. The old man had gone out into the hall and locked the door, and stood upon the outside with a pistol to keep out assistance. The affair has created an immense excitement here, I assure you. The young man Crosier is under arrest, having surrendered himself into custody, and is to undergo an examination to-morrow. The sympathies of the people are mostly with Crosier. He acts and looks the picture of despair. He is a young man, some twenty-seven to thirty years old, and unmarried. He is said to have been engaged to the lady in question, who is at present out of the State. The other parties were respectable farmers, and two of them, I understand, members of the Church in good standing.—*Rochester American.*

Letters from Glasgow mention the failure of Messrs. Begbie, Wiseman, and Co., general merchants and manufacturers, with liabilities to the amount of £150,000, of which nearly £20,000 fall upon houses in Manchester.

At a meeting of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, held on Monday, Dr. Livingston, the distinguished African traveller, already a licentiate, was unanimously elected an Honorary Fellow of Faculty.

M. de Sevérine, the Russian Envoy at the Court of Bavaria, has just signed at Carlsruhe the contract of marriage of the Grand Duke Michel of Russia with the Princess Cecile of Baden.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Lieutenant his Serene Highness the Prince of Leiningen, now on a visit to her Majesty, has been appointed to the Royal yacht *Victoria and Albert.*

By a decision of the Emperor of the French the dragoon regiment of the Imperial Guards is henceforth to bear the title of the Empress's Dragoons.

It is denied that Mr. Sidney Herbert has inherited any part of the property of the late Prince Woronzoff.

It is understood that the Belgian Minister of Finance will bring forward a demand, soon after the resumption of business in the Chamber, for credits eventually to the amount of six millions for the establishment of a war navy.

The Earl of Guilford, the late Master of St. Cross, has sent the sum of £10 as a Christmas present to the brethren.

On Saturday the French Emperor was to go to the Gaité, to witness the performance of "La Fausse Adultère," in the authorship of which his Chef du Cabinet, M. Mocquard, is said to have had a hand. But just as his Majesty was getting into his carriage he received the intelligence of the assassination of the Archbishop of Paris, and as a mark of respect he deferred his visit to the theatre.

It is understood that the Hon. Somerset Calthorpe is the "Staff Officer" whose work, entitled "Letters from Head Quarters," has recently excited so much remark.

The Queen of Holland has been obliged to keep her apartment for some days on account of indisposition, and that circumstance prevented the usual fêtes of the New Year from taking place at the palace. The Princess Mary, daughter of the Prince and Princess Frederick, is labouring under an attack of measles.

The Lord Chancellor will receive the Judges, Queen's Counsel, &c., on Monday next, the first day of Hilary Term, at his Lordship's residence, in Upper Brook-street, at twelve o'clock.

The King of the Belgians held a Court on New Year's Day to receive the congratulations and addresses of the diplomatic corps, constituted bodies, civil and military, and of all persons presented. His Majesty was accompanied by the Princes and Princesses of the Royal family, and by his future son-in-law, Archduke Maximilian.

The Church of Notre-Dame-de-Liesse (Aisne) has just received a gift of 5000 f. from the Empress of the French, as a special mark of her piety and confidence in the patroness of that sanctuary.

Some idea may be formed of King Leopold's perfect patience and powers of endurance from the fact that he had to listen and reply to not less than twenty-seven congratulatory speeches and addresses on New Year's Day.

Mr. Robert Stephenson, the celebrated engineer, has arrived at Alexandria from Toulon in his yacht the *Titania.* Mr. Stephenson is travelling for the benefit of his health, but his visit to Egypt is also understood to be in connection with the railway bridge about to be constructed across the Nile at Kafr Laiss.

Mr. Baillie Cochrane has been returned for Lanarkshire without opposition.

It is said that M. Ledru Rollin was lately elected a member of the Council-General of the Department of the Allier, and that the Government has prohibited the publication of the fact.

W. P. G. Langton, Esq., M.P. for West Somerset, has given £100 in aid of the erection of parochial schools at Stoke St. Gregory, Somerset.

The Duke and Duchess d'Aumale and the Princess de Salerno, after visiting Granada, have arrived at Malaga, where they were to embark for Sicily.

News was received in London by electric telegraph, on Tuesday last, announcing the death of Dr. Wilson, Bishop of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross, in his seventy-seventh year.

The Academy of the Beaux Arts has elected as Vice-President M. Robert Fleury. M. Hittorf, who was Vice-President for the year 1856, is President for the present year.

The Board of Customs have appointed Mr. Cockshott to the vacant office of Chairman of Surveyors in the port of London.

The nomination of Prince Galitzin to the post of Russian Ambassador at Madrid is announced in the official journal of St. Petersburg. M. de Galitzin possesses a very considerable fortune, which will allow him to nobly represent Russia at the Spanish Court.

A monument has been erected in the church at Nunton, by Messrs. Osmond and Son, of Salisbury, to the son of Major-General Buckley, M.P., who fell before Sebastopol.

The *Correspondance Havas* contains a letter of the 30th ult., from Vienna, announcing the sudden death of Marshal Radetzky, Commander-in-Chief and Governor-General in the Lombardo-Venetian provinces. The Marshal, the letter states, was carried off by an attack of apoplexy.

At the London Court of Bankruptcy on Saturday last Mr. Humphrey Brown, M.P., was adjudicated a bankrupt on the debt due to the Royal British Bank.

Cardinal Rauscher has published a circular in which he proposes the establishment of a Catholic University for the whole of Germany.

Six new Fellows of the University of London have been appointed by the Crown, viz.:—Lord Stanley, M.P., Right Hon. M. Talbot Baines, M.P., James Heywood, M.P., Sir E. Ryan, Dr. W. Withey Gull (Guy's Hospital), and Dr. J. F. Wood.

The Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres has elected M. Ravaisson for its President, and M. P. Lebas for its Vice President, during the present year.

Captain C. J. B. Hamilton, who formerly represented Aylesbury, has intimated that, although he will not oppose Sir R. Bethell at the approaching election, he will seek the suffrages of the electors at the next general election.

The subscribers to the Franklin monument will be convened to meet at Lincoln during the March assize week, to decide upon the description of monument and the site.

M. Tassara, ex-member of the Constituent Assembly of Spain, and recently appointed Minister for that country at Washington, has arrived in Paris on his way to America.

Mr. Brull, the engineer of the Eastern Counties Railway, has resigned his office. The reason alleged is that the new board has discharged some 400 of the men employed in the works and reparations of the line.

Great excitement has been created in Sydney by the announcement of a nugget of gold weighing five hundred weight. It is stated, however, to be merely a mass of quartz, with a vein of gold running through it.

The *Moniteur* contains a decree, founded on a report from Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War, for the decentralisation of the administrative portion of the government of Algeria, by the creation of local municipalities.

It is rumoured that Mr. John Scott Russell has offered to tender for the repairs of the whole British navy.

At the commencement of the season the Theatre La Scala, at Milan, usually numbers as many as 1200 subscribers. This year, owing to the expected visit of the Emperor of Austria, there are not 300.

M. Kern, whose arrival in Paris on a special mission from the Federal Council of Switzerland has been noticed, had an interview with the Emperor on Saturday last.

Mr. Charles Mathews is still suffering from the effects of an accident which occurred to him at the Manchester theatre. He has been confined to his bed since his return to town with severe inflammation of the arm, and it has been found necessary to perform more than one operation upon it for his relief.

The number of admission tickets to the Bourse subscribed for up to Saturday last was 1600. It is calculated that from 2000 to 3000 persons were in the building during Bourse hours; but, as many were attracted by the settlement of the monthly account, the influence of the new measure cannot be exactly judged of yet.

The special committee of the Glasgow Town Council have agreed to recommend the purchase of the lands of Path-head, on the south side of the river, extending to about 143 acres, to form a new public Park.

A letter from Milan of January 2 states that many political arrests have lately been made there, and that a member of one of the learned bodies had been arrested in his house. The state of feeling is such that the coming Carnival is expected to be one of the saddest ever known in Milan.

The Duchess Henrietta of Wurtemberg, mother of the reigning Queen of that country, died on the 2nd instant. This Princess, who was daughter of the late Prince Charles of Nassau Weilburg, was born on the 22nd April, 1780, and was married in 1797 to Duke Louis of Wurtemberg, uncle of the reigning King, deceased in 1817.

THE "SIR ROGER DE COVERLEY" DANCE.

IN this scene the graceful pencil of Mr. Harvey has pictured "that famous country dance" which is called after the great-grandfather of Sir Roger de Coverley, of delightful memory. In these days of revivalism fashion has recalled the celebrated old dance as the joyous conclusion of the ball; though we doubt whether so genial an exuberance of English mirth as this dance admits of had ever been entirely laid aside. It had, probably, lingered in many an ancestral hall far distant from the great city whither foreign fashions most readily find their way.

We have said that Sir Roger's great-grandfather was the sponsor of the dance; and Mr W. H. Wills, in his piquant "Notes and Illustrations" to the elegant reprint from the Coverley papers which appeared about five years since, thus pleasantly narrates some further genealogical particulars of the *nom de danse*, which Mr. Wills prefaces by stating that the real sponsor had only been recently revealed after a vigilant search. He then proceeds:—

An autograph account, by Ralph Thoresby, of the family of Calverley of Calverley, in Yorkshire, dated 1717, and which is now in the possession of Sir W. Calverley Trevelyan, states that the tune of "Roger a Calverley" was named after Sir Roger of Calverley, who lived in the time of Richard the First. This knight, according to the custom of that period, kept minstrels, who took the name from their office of "Harper." Their descendants possessed lands in the neighbourhood of Calverley, called Harperfroids and Harper's Spring. "The seal of this Sir Roger, appended to one of his charters, is large, with a chevalier on horseback." The earliest printed copy of the tune which has yet been traced is in "a choice collection ta a ground for a treble violin," by J. Playford, 1685. It appears again in 1695 in H. Playford's "Dancing Master." Mr. Chappell, author of the elaborate work on English Melodies, believes it to have been a hornpipe. That it was popular about the *Spectator's* time is shown from a passage in a satirical history of Powel the Puppet Man (1715):—"Upon the preludes being ended each party fell to bawling and calling for particular tunes. The hobnailed fellows, whose breeches and lungs seemed to be of the same leather, cried out for 'Cheshire Rounds,' 'Roger of Coverley,' 'Joan's Placket,' and 'Northern Nancy.'"

Steele owned that the notion of adapting the name to the good genial old knight originated with Swift.

THE NEW YEAR'S PARTY.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

TESTIMONIAL TO M. COSTA.

THIS superb Testimonial was presented by a numerous and influential body of gentlemen, chiefly connected with the management of the Birmingham Musical Festivals, in token of the eminent services of M. Costa as conductor of the musical department of those performances during the last three triennial festivals.

At the presentation the Chairman (Lord Willoughby de Broke) stated that, at a time when the duties of M. Costa were extremely onerous, he undertook the production of a new oratorio for the Birmingham Festival; and, notwithstanding his other engagements, in three months it was completed. How well that oratorio succeeded those who heard it would be satisfaction. M. Costa had conducted the three last the best judges. To him it gave perfect festivals in Birmingham; and to his talents, and judgment in conducting, was, in his Lordship's opinion, to be attributed the high reputation and success which they had achieved. After alluding to the gratuitous production of "Eli" for the Birmingham Festival, the Noble Lord concluded, amidst cheers, by presenting the Testimonial.

The Testimonial is of silver, relieved with gold, and the whole of the elaborate details in strict accordance with the recognised authorities on these subjects. It is from the manufactory of Messrs. Elkington, Mason, and Co., and was designed by their principal artist, Mr. Charles Grant. The subject is taken from the first chapter of the First Book of Kings, and represents the presentation in the Temple of the infant Samuel to Eli. The High Priest, robed in gorgeous vestments, and holding a golden censer, occupies a dais in the centre of the group, receiving Samuel at the hands of Hannah, as "dedicated unto the Lord." Opposite to the mother and her first-born is placed Elkanah, leaning in a reverential attitude on his staff, having brought of "the first fruits of the land" as an offering. In the background appear the altar of incense, the table of shewbread, and the pot of manna. The inscription, in raised silver letters, on the front of the pedestal of Sienna marble, is taken from the following passage in the oratorio:—

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

On a silver plate at the back is engraved:—

TO MICHAEL COSTA, in commemoration of the first performance, on the 29th of August, 1855, of "Eli," an oratorio generously composed by him for the Birmingham Musical Festival, in aid of the funds of the General Hospital, as a tribute to his genius, and as a record of his disinterested liberality, this testimonial is presented by noblemen and gentlemen of the committee of management. MDCCCLV.

TESTIMONIAL PRESENTED TO M. COSTA.

M. Costa, in acknowledging the gift, spoke of his coming to England in 1829, an utter stranger, when Birmingham for a short time became his abode, and here he first experienced kindnesses to which he constantly recurred with pleasurable recollection. Referring to his exertions in connection with the Birmingham Musical Festival, M. Costa said he felt proud in being at the head of the finest musical congress in the world.

THE CHARLTON CEMETERY.

THE Charlton Cemetery is one of the first of those provided under the new Burial Act, and contains rather more than five acres of land, pleasantly situated on the high-road from Charlton to Woolwich-common. It was purchased by the Burial Board for a considerable sum, on account of its superiority and peculiar advantages as regards contiguity to the parish, fine soil, easy access, &c.

The ground is laid out and planted with trees, shrubs, &c., of a choice description, a portion being set apart for the use of Dissenters, and is inclosed on the front side with a dwarf plinth-wall of red brick and Portland stone in character with the rest of the architecture, and a neat iron palisading on the top. Separate entrances and carriage-gates are provided to the Episcopal and Dissenters' portion of the ground.

The entrance-lodge stands in front, contiguous to the gates, and is a red brick building, with stone dressings, round doors and windows, and an open timber porch. It contains apartments for the porter and a general waiting-room.

The chapels, which stand on the rising ground, are seen to advantage from the public road. The Episcopal Chapel is a neat structure, in the Early English style of ecclesiastical architecture, and has a western entrance, with a bell-cot at the south-west angle. The interior is planned with stalls, bier, and richly-carved pulpit and desk; the roof is open to the rafters, and stained and varnished. The Dissenters' Chapel is of the same size as the Episcopal, being similarly planned, and fitted with stalls, seats, &c. The roof is of rather simpler character; the style of the building is decorated. The windows are filled with tracery. Both chapels are built of

THE CHARLTON CEMETERY.

Kentish rag-stone, and Bath-stone dressings to doors, windows, and other parts.

The contracts of the laying out, building chapels, lodge, entrance-gates, and front wall, amounted to £2612; the whole being carried out under the direction of Mr. S. Hewitt, architect, of Southwark

PROTESTANT CHURCH
LATELY ERECTED AT CANNES.

IN the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for October 25, 1856, in our descriptive Sketch of the charming locality of Cannes, in the south of France, we recorded the gratifying fact of the erection of a Gothic Church for the Protestant population. We now engrave the new edifice, which was designed by Mr. Thomas Smith, architect, of Hertford, and Hart-street, London.

The church is built of the native stone of the district, the mild granite colour of which, contrasted with the Arles stone, of which the mullions, tracery, and dressings are formed, produces a remarkably good effect. The situation is most picturesque, within 400 yards of the Mediterranean, and on the south side of the Nice and Marseilles road

The church is calculated to hold about 200 persons. On the east side of the chancel is a robing-room, corresponding with which, on the west side, is a gallery, intended for the organ, but which has been built at the north end of the nave. The organ front is in perfect character with the church. The style of the edifice is mediæval, of the decorated character; the ceilings are ornamentally groined. The end fronting the road has a handsome four-light window, with a triangular septfoil in the gable. The sittings, or stalls, are open, and in accordance with the architecture of the building.

The service is that of the English Church, and is performed in the English language.

We take this opportunity of correcting a misstatement which lately appeared in the metropolitan and provincial journals to the effect that Lord Ellenborough, on a recent visit to Cannes, had purchased for the sum of £10,000 the château on the hill, the property of T. R. Woolfield, Esq.; his Lordship having been induced to do so from the fact of its being a facsimile of an old mansion of his ancestors situated on the banks of the Ben

PROTESTANT CHURCH RECENTLY ERECTED AT CANNES.

Lomond, where he had passed his infancy, and which Mr. Woolfield, having seen and sketched thus reproduced on the shores of the Mediterranean. Mr. Smith, the architect of the church, and also of the château on the hill, from an original design made by him on the occasion of a professional visit paid to Mr. Woolfield in 1850, says no such sketch was submitted to the architect, nor did Mr. Woolfield give him any more definite instruction respecting the character of the building he intended to raise than that he wished it to be in the style of an English castle. The château, we understand, has been purchased by Lord Londesborough.

(*To the Editor of the* ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS).

Freechurch Manse, Peebles.

IN an article headed "Cannes," which appeared in your Journal on the 25th of October, I observe the following statement:—"The Scotch portion of the community found their consciences would not allow of their listening to the Episcopal service, neither would their pride let them pray in their drawing-rooms, while the other believers had a special edifice. So, accordingly, equal exertions were made on their part. A Scotch church of humble pretensions was erected in the town (?), and all were satisfied." As the Presbyterian clergyman who officiated in what is here called the Scotch church, I trust you will permit me to contradict the aspersion thus injuriously cast on those who attended my ministry. The fact is, that the Episcopalians had no "special edifice" at all till some time after that in which we worshipped was erected, and that the latter was erected not by us at all, but by one of their own number—that well-known and truly enlightened friend of religious liberty, Admiral Pakenham, who offered us the use of it for the winter at an hour which admitted of our attending the services of both churches on the same day, an opportunity of which not a few of us gladly availed ourselves. I regret that you should have given insertion to a statement so ungenerous and unfair, and so well fitted to awaken the acrimonious feelings which we Presbyterians found rankling in the bosom of the Episcopalian community when we arrived, and which we used our best endeavours by the blessing of God to allay, and, I rejoice to say, not without success. It is obviously the production of one either in a great measure ignorant of the facts of the case, or wantonly intent on mischief. Hoping that you will not object to give to this rejoinder the same publicity which you have already given to the statement that called it forth,

I am, Sir, &c., WM. WALLACE DUNCAN.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE entries for the Chester Cup are rather below Mr. Topham's usual mark; but there is an immense increase in the number of the candidates for the Liverpool Steeplechase. Lambourn, Saunterer, Magnifier, Sprig of Shillelah, and Schiedam, will be put through Mr. Topham's crucible when he adjusts the scale for the former race, and Melissa will, no doubt, have the honour of the top weight. It is rumoured that Blink Bonny is anything but a favourite with the Malton men, on account of her showing a great deal of temper at exercise. Nothing of this kind was observable in public last year, except a suspiciously uneasy way of whisking her tail when she went up to start; and the report must be taken with great reservation. Many go so far as to say that, even with health, she will be at 40 to 1 on the day!

The snow and frost have stopped all hunting since Monday, and the schoolboys, who are guiltless of coursing and fox-cover joys, are having their turn with skates. There are at present thirty regular visitors in Melton, with about 350 hunters between them; whereas the average number of visitors for some seasons previous had been very little above a dozen. Lord Stamford's—one of the most musical packs that ever flew to a scent—had a regular burster of twenty minutes, from Barkley Holt, on Thursday (Jan. 1)—only four men up when the fox was killed. This over, they had another fifty minutes, not so fast, but a capital hunting run, we believe, from John o' Gaunt's. The new Leicestershire packs are working under a lucky star, as Mr. Tailby has seldom failed to kill, and that, too, in a country perfectly swarming with foxes. We, however, hear anything but good accounts about the foxes in the Cottesmore country. The Duke of Rutland's hounds have been showing wonderful sport; and cheery Will Goodall seems to be greater than ever both in his kennel management and in the field. Old Meltonians say that such a pack was never seen in Leicestershire, even in "The Squire's" prime. Everything goes on very comfortably now under Tom Smith's rule in the Brocklesby country, and he bids fair to bring back "Old Will's" days, which are still so affectionately remembered there. His greatest run lately ended without a kill; and it is believed that the fox escaped by climbing into a thorn-tree. A hedger is said to have seen him ascend, but he kept his tongue quiet. This magnanimity rivals that of the clergyman's daughter in Gloucestershire, many years since, who stole down late at night to a drain from which the hunted fox was to have been dug out next day, and opened the mouth of it. We hear that the Southwold country will be vacant at the close of the season, and that great exertions are making to increase the subscription. Many consider it a better country than either the Brocklesby or Lord Henry Bentinck's, and this year there has been no lack of foxes.

The coursing meetings for next week are—Bradwardine, on Tuesday Whitchurch, on Wednesday; and Altcar Club, on Wednesday and Thursday; and several lots of greyhounds, some of them of the well-known Motley blood, will come to the hammer, at Aldridge's, on Saturday.

ENGLISH SWINDLERS IN AMERICA.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, in his "England and the English," ridicules the rank-and-title-worship which leads our tradesmen and lodging-house-keepers to place the most unbounded confidence in any handsome, well-dressed scoundrel with an aristocratic name or title. Plain Mr. Jones or Stubbs, though ever so rich, will be viewed with considerable suspicion at first; whereas a ticket-of-leave man who calls himself the Honourable Augustus Frederick Fitzclarence, if he can only dress in character, may obtain unlimited credit. Our Transatlantic cousins have a good laugh now and then at this weakness on the part of our countrymen; but they have little cause, for we question whether Jonathan, in spite of all his boasted sharpness, is not quite as easily taken in as John Bull. A very flagrant case of American gullibility, arising from this propensity, was reported in a Pittsburg paper the other day, in which a certain Lord Arthur Hudson and Sir Charles Miller were the actors, and a considerable number of tradesmen in that city were victimised. The following details of the affair, which we take from the *Pittsburg Gazette*, will show that there is good scope for clever swindlers in America:—

"The position of Lord Arthur John Hudson and Sir Charles Miller did not carry them away; and, instead of sporting it at the Monongahela, they contented themselves with the more humble accommodations to be procured at the Fulton House, Diamond. This moderation was charming. They were communicative, too; and their admirers were confidently informed that they had £40,000 sterling deposited with S. Jones and Co., bankers. Drinking, eating, and riding were the order of the day. Money flowed like water; everybody was urged to participate with them in the good things of this life, and everybody accepted the invitation.

"Sir Charles owned a sandbank in Missouri, and such sand for glass-making! 'Sir,' said Sir Charles, exhibiting a goblet, 'did you ever see such glass? my sandbank will make the fortune of any man!' His admirers never did see such glass of course, and the glass-merchants of the city gave extensive orders for this magnificent sand, determined to excel the world in the matter of glass. Then Sir Charles dealt in patents, and disposed of a right for selling saws to a druggist in this city, and got the money for it. Lord Arthur John was not engaged in sand or patent rights; his views were more in the agricultural line. He doubtless saw in the distance a large advance in real estate in this vicinity, and determined shrewdly to be in a condition to realise the anticipated profit. So he visited the well-known farm of Mr. Peter Perchment, Wilkins township, and was posted as to terms, examined the grounds, the horses, the waggons, implements, &c., and concluded to purchase at 15,000 dollars for the farm and 2000 dollars for the stock. My lord would give Mr. Perchment a cheque for the amount on his bankers, S. Jones and Co., who had £18,000 sterling on deposit, when the deed was made out. In the mean time Mr. P. must give up his contracts, for the horses could not be used, and Mr. P. did so at a loss of about 4000 dollars.

"His Lordship and Sir Charles frequently visited the farm. A pig would please their fancy, and to town a porker would go; now a fat turkey excited his Lordship's desire, and to town it went; a pair of elegant blankets followed suit; and any number of bottles of real old Irish whisky were also sent to the city. Things went on accordingly. My Lord and Sir Charles also cultivated the acquaintance of Mr. M'Laughlin, shoemaker, Fourth-street. Mr. M'Laughlin has the honour now of being their creditor for goods and cash lent to the amount of forty-five dollars. We believe the transaction originated in this wise. Lord Arthur John and Sir Charles dropped in to buy a pair of shoes. His Lordship pulled off a pair of tolerable boots, when his aristocratic eyes beheld in the toe of his stocking a hole. A half-reproachful sigh escaped his Lordship, and he said, 'It is a shame for a Hudson to wear a stocking like that!' This attracted the attention of Mr. M'Laughlin. A pair of shoes soon fitted the feet of his Lordship, and hid from his mortified vision the rent hose. 'What is the brass?' said his Lordship, running his hand into his pocket. Sir Charles said, 'My Lord, my Lord, this will not do; charge this to my account, Mr. M'Laughlin.' And it was charged.

"His Lordship told his friend that Judge M'Clure advised him 'to remove his deposits from Messrs. Jones and Co., as they were not safe; he recommended in their place the old Bank of Pittsburg. But his Lordship was fearful that the old bank could not receive it all, so he bought on account, at Burke and Barnes's, an iron safe which is now in his room at the Fulton House, to hold at least his daily spending-money. The safe is worth 150 dollars.

"On the whole these representatives of England's nobility met with an exceedingly warm reception. Their acquaintances were only too proud to accommodate them with small sums of money—fives and tens—and they were not too proud to accept such accommodations. They had no pride to talk of. For instance, Lord Arthur John, instead of allying himself to some noble daughter of a noble and ancient house in his own land, plighted himself to an interesting young lady, daughter of his Lordship's landlord of the Fulton House. And the marriage ceremony was to have taken place last night (December 1).

"If we were disposed to moralise at this point, we might choose two subjects—the importance of 'blood' in free America, and the marvellous facility with which free Americans can distinguish that same 'blood' in noble visitors. Alas for them, however; but the sequel will explain.

"Yesterday Mr. Perchment's lawyer finished the deeds, and Mr. P., documents in hand, waited upon his Lordship for the cheque upon Messrs. Jones and Co., for 17,000 dollars. But his Lordship was out of funds, and could not pay him. So Mr. Perchment waited upon Messrs. Jones and Co, and found that they never had a cent of his noble Lordship's money. In the space of a short half hour what a change! The farm was not sold, but he was. Mr Perchment accordingly brought suit before the Mayor against Lord Arthur John for swindling, and the warrants for his arrest were placed in the hands of the officers. Unfortunately his Lordship had hired a buggy from Mr. Jacob Gardner to go to Brownstown, to return in time for the wedding. He did not return, and it was supposed he seized the opportunity to reach some country railway depôt and leave the vicinity. We sincerely sympathise with the bride and her parents. The guests were invited, the minister was in the parlour, the supper was laid; Mr. Lougarey, who had advanced his Lordship 180 dollars in jewellery, was to act as his groomsman, and he was there. The police officers were there also, to watch the arrival of his Lordship. But his Lordship disappointed all.

"We have, however, the pleasure of recording the arrest of the titled gentlemen by officers Hamilton and Wray, about ten o'clock last night They reached the stable at that hour, and as soon as they saw the police they ran, but they were so gloriously drunk—drunk as lords—that they were soon overtaken. When taken to the Mayor's office, 50 dols. and a gold watch were found on Lord Arthur John. Both were committed for a hearing. In the police-office they still retained their hauteur. My lord said, dictatorially, 'Hand me a chair.' The officer replied, 'You are old enough to help yourself.' So he did help himself.

"Notwithstanding the seriousness of one or two phases of this occurrence it is as a whole the most laughable affair we have ever heard of transpiring in this city. The money losers have not the least sympathy, and they will be targets for 'roasting' for six months. His Lordship's attorney was also deceived, but rather had his eyes open towards the last."

RAILWAY BETWEEN FRANCE AND SPAIN.—The French engineers, who were sent some time back into Upper Aragon to examine the question of carrying a railway across the Pyrenees, to effect a communication between France and Spain, have terminated their surveys, and the result has been arrived at that the line should start from Tarbes and end at the city of Huesca, passing by the bridge of Gavarni. In the neighbourhood of Huesca not fewer than 3000 men are employed in the preliminary works. It appears from the surveys that the passage across the Pyrenees is not so difficult as was believed. The principal drawback to uninterrupted working of the line will arise, it is thought, from the quantity of snow which is to be found in these districts during four months of the year.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

THE Conferences at Paris having been nearly closed—after a somewhat satisfactory solution of the difficulties in reference to the boundary question—and the news from Berlin bearing upon the Neufchatel dispute being of a more pacific nature, most National Securities have been steady this week, and very little change has taken place in their value. We have to notice a better feeling in the Money Market—in other words, the pressure for discounts has been much less extensive, and the rates of discount in Lombard-street have ruled easier, the best sixty days' bills having been taken at 5½ per cent. There is much discussion going on in reference to the future movements of the Bank of England Directors in respect to money. Some parties contend that we shall have the minimum rate reduced to five per cent.; others, that they see very little prospect of any positive relief. Our impression is that money, like every other commodity, must be regulated by the law of supply and demand. When we consider the extent of our enormous trade, and the great demand which must continue for money in the event of our trade being prosperous for any length of time, and, moreover, that affairs in France are in anything but a settled position, we arrive at the conclusion that a *low* range in discounts is wholly out of the question. We must bear in mind, too, that our shipments of gold to the Continent, and silver both to India and China, are still large. Hence, even admitting that the exports will eventually fall off, we see no prospect of any important addition to the stock of gold in the Bank of England, even though we may, and no doubt we shall, receive large remittances during the present year, both from Australia and the United States. The comparative ease in discounts has led to an improved market for the Unfunded Debt, which has advanced to 6s. premium.

Since we last wrote £195,700 in gold and silver has come in from Mexico, the West Indies, &c.; £50,000 from New York; £400,000 from Australia; and £20,000 from other quarters, including a few parcels of silver from the Continent. Nearly £100,000 in gold has been sent away, partly to purchase silver to meet the Eastern demand. The exact amount forwarded by the last steamer for India was £430,196.

The Union Bank of London has declared a dividend of 5 per cent, and a bonus of 2½ per cent, for the last half year—being at the rate of 15 per cent per annum.

The last returns of the Irish banks show a decrease in the circulation of £119,000. The total amount of notes issued is £7,308,000; and the supply of bullion held is £2,622,000.

The Stock Market on Monday was inactive. In prices, however, very little change took place. Bank Stock realised 218 and 216½; the Reduced Three per Cents were 94⅛⅜½; the New Three per Cents, 94½⅝⅝; Consols for Account, 94 to 94⅛; India Bonds, 2s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 2s. 5s. prem.; India Stock, for Account, marked 225½. On Tuesday prices underwent very few fluctuations, and the purchases of Stock were trifling. Bank Stock, 217; Three per Cents Reduced, 94⅛⅜; Consols, ex div., 93⅞ 94⅛; New Three per Cents, 94⅜⅝; Long Annuities, 1860, 2⅛; India Bonds, par; Consols for Account, 94 93⅞ 94⅛; Exchequer Bills, 2s. to 6s. prem.; Ditto, Bonds, 99. The business doing on Wednesday was trifling, as follows:—Three per Cents Reduced, 94⅜ ½; Three per Cent Consols, 94½; New Three per Cents, 94½ to 94⅝; Consols for Account, 94⅛ 94; Exchequer Bills, 1s. to 6s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 99; Bank Stock, 216½. On Thursday the dividends upon the Three per Cents became payable at the Bank. English Stocks generally were flat, yet scarcely any change took place in prices. The Three per Cents, for Money, were 94 to 94⅛; for the February Account, 94½⅝; the Reduced were done at 94½ ½; and the New Three per Cents, 94⅜⅝; Bank Stock was 216½ to 218; India Stock, 219½. Exchequer Bills were heavy, at par to 3s. premium.

The Committee of Mexican Bondholders have received advices from their agent in Mexico, who intimates that about 12,000 dollars have been shipped from Mazatlan on account of the dividends. The arrears are now becoming exceedingly heavy; but the disturbed state of Mexico is much against remittances sufficiently large to enable the dividends to be paid. The Foreign House generally has been rather heavy, but without leading to any material change in prices. Brazilian Five per Cents have been done at 101; Ditto, Small, 100½; Ditto, Four-and-a-half per Cents, New, 98½; Chilian Six per Cents, 104⅜; Danish Five per Cents, 103; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 96⅜ ex div.; Ditto, Small, 97½ ex div.; Sardinian Five per Cents, 88⅛ 89½; Spanish New Deferred, 24; Ditto, Committee's Certificate of Coupon, 6 per cent; Swedish Four per Cents, 85½; Turkish Six per Cents, 95½⅞; Turkish Four per Cents, 103¾; French Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 92 francs; Ditto Three per Cents, 67 francs; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 65 ex div.; Dutch Four per Cents, 97⅛.

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been firm in price, but the dealings in them have been restricted. City have realised 70; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 18½; London Chartered of Australia, 18½; Ditto, New, 18; London and County, 33; National Provincial of England, 80; Ottoman, 13⅜; London and Westminster, 49½; Union of Australia, 66⅜; Union of London, 28; Western Bank of London, 43½.

Miscellaneous Securities have been rather dull. In the quotations, however, no material change has taken place. Southampton Docks, 48½; Australian Agricultural, 21; Canada Company's Bonds, 141; Do., Government Six per Cents, 110½ ex div.; Electric Telegraph, 90½; English and Australian Copper Smelting Company, 1½; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 6⅜; London Discount, 4⅞; National Discount, 6; Ditto, New, 5⅞; North British Australasian, ½; North of Europe Steam, 14½; Peel River Land and Mineral, 2⅜; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 68; Ditto, New, 15; Berlin Waterworks, 4⅞; East London, 115; Grand Junction, 75; Kent, 81; Lambeth, 95; West Middlesex, 101.

For the most part the dealings in Railway Shares have been limited; nevertheless, prices almost generally have ruled steady. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—East Anglian, 19½; East Lancashire, 94; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 51½; Great Northern, 92½; Ditto, A Stock, 78; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 111½; Great Western, 68; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 97½; London and Brighton, 112; London and North-Western, 106¾; London and South-Western, 108; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 34½; Midland, 83; North British, 40; North-Eastern—Berwick, 85; Ditto, G.N.E. Purchase, 3 dis.; Ditto, York, 61; North Staffordshire, 12½; North-Western, 7⅛; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 29; Scottish Central, 106½; Scottish North Eastern (Aberdeen Stock), 26½; South-Eastern, 74½; South Wales, 85; Vale of Neath, 20.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Hull and Selby, 110; Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 2⅜; Midland—Bradford, 92; Preston and Wyre, 44½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Eastern Counties, New Six per Cent, 12½; Great Northern Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 103; Great Western—Chester Shares, 10½; Midland Consolidated, 98½; North Eastern—York, 9⅜.

BRITISH POSSESSIONS.—Buffalo and Lake Huron, 12½; Calcutta and South-Eastern, ½ prem.; East Indian, 114⅜; Geelong and Melbourne, 21¼; Grand Trunk of Canada, 54½; Ditto, Six per Cent Debentures, 82½; Great Western of Canada, New, 10⅜; Madras, 20⅜; Ditto, Extension, 10½; Ditto, Third Extension, 6; Ditto, Fourth Extension, 6.

FOREIGN.—Belgian Eastern Junction, 1½; Eastern of France, 32⅜; Great Central of France, 22½; Great Luxembourg, 5; Lombardo-Venetian, 12; Namur and Liége, 8; Royal Swedish, 1⅜; Sambre and Meuse, 9½.

Mining Shares have been firm. On Thursday Cobre Copper were done at 57⅞; Linares, 8½; Rhymney Iron, 23¾; Santiago de Cuba, 2½; South Australian, ⅜; Tin Croft, 3¾.

THE MARKETS.

COLN EXCHANGE, Jan. 5.—Only a moderate supply of English wheat, in middling condition, was on sale to-day. The trade was by no means active, yet the bulk of the samples was cleared off, at last Monday's currency. American wheats were pressed for sale, at a sight reduction in value; but other foreign samples realised previous rates. Fine malting barley sold luskly, at an improvement of 1s per quarter. In the value of grinding and distilling sorts no change took place. Malt moved off steadily, at full currencies. We were fairly supplied with oats, in which about an average business was doing, at late rates. Beans, peas, and flour were in moderate request, at full quotations.

Jan. 7.—The supplies of most kinds of produce in to-day's market were only moderate. Generally speaking, the demand ruled inactive, at unaltered prices.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 53s. to 65s.; ditto, white, 54s. to 73s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 52s. to 63s.; rye, 38s. to 42s.; grinding barley, 31s. to 33s.; distilling, ditto, 37s. to 38s.; malting, 41s. to 52s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 67s. to 76s.; brown, ditto, 63s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 69s. to 77s.; Chevalier, 77s. to 79s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 24s. to 25s.; potato, ditto, 25s. to 32s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 20s. to 26s.; ditto, white, 21s. to 30s.; tick beans, 34s. to 35s.; grey peas, 34s. to 35s.; maple, 40s. to 41s.; white, 40s. to 42s.; boilers, 40s. to 43s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 58s. to 60s.; Suffolk, 41s. to 42s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 42s. to 43s. per 280 lb. American flour, 30s. to 38s. per barrel.

Seeds.—Linseed continues in fair request, at full quotations. Most other seeds support previous rates.

Linseed, English, crushing, 52s. to 61s.; Mediterranean, 61s. 6d. to 63s.; hempseed, 40s. to 46s. per quarter. Coriander, 26s. to 30s. per cwt. Brown mustard seed, 12s. to 2 s.; ditto, white, 10s. to 12s.; tares, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 0d. per bushel. English rapeseed, 82s. to 84s. per quarter. Linseed cakes, English, £10 10s. to £10 15s.; ditto, foreign, £10 0s. to £11 10s.; rape cakes, £5 10s. to £6 10s. per ton. Canary, 68s. to 74s. per quarter.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9d. to 9½d.; of household ditto, 7½d to 8½d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 58s. 1d.; barley, 41s. 8d.; oats, 23s. 5d.; rye, 33s. 2d.; beans, 41s. 5d.; peas, 40s. 9d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 60s. 2d.; barley, 41s. 1d.; oats, 24s. 3d.; rye, 40s. 4d.; beans, 43s. 4d.; peas, 41s. 3d.

English Grain sold last Week.—Wheat, 85,765; barley, 93,521; oats, 11,472; rye, 284; beans, 2051; peas, 2931 quarters.

Tea.—There is much less excitement in our market, compared with last week; yet several large parcels of common sound congou have sold at 11½ d. per lb.

Sugar.—Compared with those current previous to the holidays, the prices realised for good and useful raw sugars, this week, show an advance of from 1s. to 1s. 6d per cwt. Inferior qualities, however, have met a dull inquiry. Barbadoes has sold at 52s. 6d. to 53s.; fine Demerara, 56s. 6d. to 55s.; Mauritius, 43s. to 56s.; Bengal, 41s. 6d. to 54s. per cwt. Refined goods are dearer—low to fine grocery being worth 61s 6d. to 61s. per cwt.

Coffee.—Plantation Ceylon has sold at an improvement in value of 1s. per cwt.; and good ord. native has changed hands at 54s. per cwt. Other coffees support former terms.

Rice.—This article, though in very large supply, continues steady, at full quotations. The sales have exceeded 20,000 bags.

Provisions.—Nearly all kinds of Irish butter have sold heavily, and prices are barely supported. Foreign butter is lower to purchase, with a dull market. English is 2s. per cwt. lower. In bacon very little is doing, at from 60s. to 63s. Hams and lard are dull.

Tallow.—There is a moderate inquiry for most kinds. P.Y.C. on the spot, 58s. 9d. to 59s.; January to March, 58s. 6d. to 58s. 9d. per cwt. Town tallow, 57s. 9d. net cash. Rough fat, 3s. 2d. per 8 lb.

Oils.—Linseed oil is steady, at 28s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot. Rape is firm, at 54s. to 57s. 6d. Other oils about stationary. We have a dull market for turpentine, on easier terms.

Spirits.—There is a full average business doing in rum, and prices show a tendency to advance. Proof Leewards and East India, 2s. 5d. to 2s. 6d. per gallon. Brandy is very firm, and the finest qualities are worth 12s. 6d. per gallon. Malt spirit, proof, 11s. 2d.; Geneva, 3s. to 4s. per gallon.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 10s. to £4 4s.; clover ditto, £3 10s. to £5 0s.; and straw, £1 3s. to £1 8s. per load.

Coals.—Hasting's Hartley, 16s. 3d.; Holywell, 17s.; Tanfield Moor, 14s. 9d.; Riddell, 18s. 3d.; Eden Main, 19s.; Haswell, 20s. 6d.; Lambton, 20s.; Caradoc, 19s. 6d.; Evenwood 18s. 6d. per ton.

Hops.—The show of samples is but moderate, and the demand is steady, at full quotations:—Mid. and East Kent pockets, £3 5s. to £5 15s.; Weald of Kent, £3 5s. to £4 14s.; Sussex, £3 to £3 18s. per cwt.

Wool.—All descriptions are in good request, at prices fully equal to those realised last week.

Potatoes.—The arrivals have been on the increase, and the demand is inactive, at from 70s. to 120s. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.—Although the supplies of stock on offer this week have been only moderate, the trade generally has ruled inactive, on rather lower terms:—

Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 5s. 2d.; mutton, 3s. 10d. to 5s. 4d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 2d., pork, 3s. 8d. to 5s. 2d. per 8 lb., to sink the offal.

Newgate and Leadenhall.—These markets have been well supplied, and a full average business has been transacted, as follows:—

Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d; veal, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 8d. to 5s. 4d. per 8 lb., by the carcase. ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JAN. 2, 1857.

THE ORDER OF THE BATH.

WAR DEPARTMENT, JAN. 1.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Prussia to be an Honorary Member of the Military Division of the First Class, of Knights Grand Cross, of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

To be Ordinary Members of the Military Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath:—Lieut.-Generals S. B. Auchmuty, N. Thorne; Vice-Admirals C. H. Fremantle, the Hon F. W. Grey; Colonels R. Garrett, H. K. Storks; Lieut.-Generals G. P. Wymer, P. Grant.

To be an Ordinary Member of the Civil Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders of the said Most Hon. Order:—J. M. Higginson, Esq., C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Islands of Mauritius and its Dependencies.

To be Ordinary Members of the Military Division of the Third Class or Companions of the said Most Honourable Order:—Captains the Hon. G. F. Hastings, F. H. H. Glasse, F. Scott, R.N.; Colonels C. W. Ridley, C. T. Van Straubenzee, F. W. Hamilton, Lord F. Paulet, Hon. G. Cadogan F. Seymour, W. M. S. MacMurdo, E. R. Wetherall; Lieut.-Cols. J. P. Sparks, T. Williams, W. Munro; Capt. N. Vansittart, R.N.; Lieut.-Cols. A. B. Montgomery, H. S. Rowan, G. Macbeath, J. H. Franckiin, J. R. Stuart, A. Maxwell, R. J. Baumgarten, R. Blane, J. L. Wilton, C. F. Fordyce, F. C. Evelegh, A. T. Heyland, R. C. H. Taylor, J. E. Goodwin; Brevet Lieut.-Col. F. P. Harding; Lieut.-Col. A. Irving, A. C. Goodenough, I. N. A. Freese, Hon. A. E. Hardinge, E. A. Somerset, A. J. Pack, J. C. Kennedy, J. W. Armstrong, J. W. S. Smith, J. L. R. Rooke, G. G. Alexander; Brevet Lieuts.-Col. F. F. Maude; Col. J. Daubeney; Capt. A. J. Kennedy, R.N.; Lieut.-Col. W. F. Hopkins; Brevet Lieut.-Col. H. A. B. Campbell; Brevet Majors J. R. Anderson, C. T. Franklin; Major J. M. Wemyss; Brevet Major W. E. M. Reilly; Major G. S. Digby; Dr. J. B. Gibson; R. C. Elliot, Sen. Surg.; W. L. M. Young.

To be Ordinary Members of the Civil Division of the Third Class, or Companions of the said Most Honourable Order:—W. G. Romaine, Esq.; Capt. C. FitzGerald, R.N.; Sir H. E. F. Young.

To be an Honorary Member of the Military Division of the Third Class, or Companions of the said Most Honourable Order:—Capt. A. Slade, R.N.

The following Officers of the Army and of the Marine of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, and of the Army and of the Marine of his Majesty the King of Sardinia, to be Honorary Members of the Military Divisions of the Second and Third Classes of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath:—To be Knights Commanders: MM. L. V. J. Charner, M. J. A. Odet-Pellion, J. Lugeol, L. Edouard, Comte Bouet-Willaumez, O. P. A. De Chabennes-Curton, J. P. E. J. de la Graviere; Chevaliers G. Durando, A. Trotti. To be Companions: MM. Adolphe, Comte de Monet, H. A. Danner, E. Barral, H. E. A. Vicomte Bertrand, A. Lugeol, F. E. Paris, F. Anne-Duportal, G. L. E. Larrieu, A. M. F. M. de Condé, A. C. E. Bouet, P. V. Touchard, L. M. A. W. de Wailly, A. Dupouy, A. A. Bon Darricau, C. M. A de D. d'Hornoy, P. Lescure, J. H. Penhoat, E. L. H. Méquet, L. L. T. D. de Montlouis, H. M. H. de Cintré, O. G. de la Coche, M. J. Dupré, H. J. N. F. Garnault, J. A. T. Reybaud, P. X. Pclissier, E. F. Chevillotte; Count A. Pettiti; Chevaliers A. de la Rovere, G. Govone; The Marquis O. di Negro.

ADMIRALTY, DEC. 24, 1856.

Corps of Royal Marines: Cadets W. H. Nantes, M. H. Farquharson, M. Hogge, J. Phillips, C. R. Ricketts, D. G. Pitcher, and C. J. Kinsman, to be Second Lieutenants.

BANKRUPTS.

R. BAKER, Lime-street, City, merchant.—J. ALLTREE, Liverpool, tailor and draper.—J. ADNAM, Old Fish-street, City, wine and spirit merchant.—G. N. SOLOMON, Euston-place, New-road, merchant.—W. BAKER, Tichbourne-street, Haymarket, licensed victualler.—O. SAGAR, Stonefold Mill, near Haslingden, Lancashire, manufacturer.—W. POTTER, Ellerburn, North Riding of Yorkshire, grocer and draper.—T. S. LAWRENCE, Ingram-court, Fenchurch-street, bone and artificial manure merchant.—J. BAILEY, Oakenshaw, Clayton-le-Moors, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer.—J. VENABLES, A. MANN, and H. GRASETT, Burslem, Staffordshire, earthenware manufacturers.—J. C. H. FREUND, West-street, Finsbury, boarding-house keeper.—J. Van RAALTE, the younger, Gloucester-terrace, St. John's-road, Hoxton, importer of French goods and warehouseman.—J. BROWN, West Bromwich, Staffordshire, wine and spirit merchant,

TUESDAY, JAN. 6.

WAR DEPARTMENT, JAN. 6.

6th Dragoons: Lieut H. Timson and Capt. R. H. Currie to be Captains.

Grenadier Guards: Lieut.-Col. T. H. King to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel.

5th Foot: Ensign E. F. Haig to be Lieutenant; G. A. Shegog to be Ensign.

24th: Assist.-Surg. R. Wolseley to be Assistant-Surgeon.

27th: Capt. H. Stapylton to be Major; Lieut. J. D. Downing to be Captain; Ensign R. Lloyd to be Lieutenant; Cadet L. W. Desborough to be Ensign.

32nd: Lieut. J. D. Thomson to be Adjutant.

41st: Major H. W. Meredith to be Major.

43rd: Assist. Surg. J. Duffin to be Assistant Surgeon.

71th: J. H. Tuke to be Paymaster.

81st: Ensign F. Schlotel to be Lieutenant.

87th: Lieut. C. Lynch to be Adjutant.

2nd West India Regiment: H. A. Pratt to be Ensign.

Ceylon Rifles: J. A. Denton to be Ensign.

HOSPITAL STAFF.—Acting Assist.-Surgeons J. V. de Boissiere and C. E. Le Febure to be Assistant-Surgeons to the Forces; Assist.-Surgeon F. Clarke to be Assistant-Surgeon.

UNATTACHED.—Lieut. A. E. Ross to be Captain.

BREVET.—Major-General Sir J. F. Love, K.C.B., to have the rank of Lieutenant-General while in the command of a Division of the Army in Great Britain; Lieutenant-Colonel R. Goring to have the honorary rank of Colonel in the Army.

ADMIRALTY, JAN. 3.

Royal Marines: First Lieut. and Quartermaster H. W. Mawbey to be Captain; Second Lieut. H. L. Rose to be First Lieutenant.

BANKRUPTS.

R. F. KEY, Thorney, Cambridgeshire, grocer.—J. R. DAWSON, West Cowes, Isle of Wight hotel-keeper.—J. H. STEVENS, Great Wild-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, engraver.—E. CROFTS, West-place, John's-row, St. Luke's, hearth-rug manufacturer.—S. MUDDIMAN, Northampton, shoe manufacturer.—W. KINGSTON, Bridge-road, Lambeth, linendraper.—N. LEVY, Church-lane, Whitechapel, butcher.—E. POLLACK, Fieldgate-street, sugar refiner.—T. RODGER, Attercliffe-cum-Darnall, Yorkshire, grocer.—T. S. BELTON, Marton and Horncastle, Lincolnshire, maltster.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. MITCHELL, Dunoon, slater.—J. MATHER, Haddington, surgeon.—W. PULLER, Perth, innkeeper.—A. MACKENZIE, Dingwall, county clerk.—R. MACKINLAY, Aberdeen, grocer.

BIRTHS.

On the 24th September, 1856, at Birksgate, near Adelaide, South Australia, the wife of Arthur Hardy, Esq., of a son.

On the 7th inst., at Highlands, Sussex, the wife of Frederic Ridge, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On Saturday, the 3rd inst., at St. Oswald's Catholic Chapel, Old Swan, Liverpool, by the Rev. J. Maddock, and afterwards at the Protestant Church of St. John the Divine, Fairfield, near Liverpool, by the Rev. W. Calder, William Duarte, second son of T. J. Duarte, Esq., formerly of that town, to Ada Blakesley Shore, third daughter of T. F. Shore, Esq., of Elsom.

On the 27th ult., by special licence, at Strathallin Lodge, Isle of Man, James Muirhead, Esq., Laurel Bank, Glasgow, to Sarnia, younger daughter of Major Pollock, J.P., formerly of the 43rd Light Infantry.

DEATH.

On Dec. 22nd., at his residence, Carlsbrooke, Isle of Wight, Charles Mitchell, Esq., M.D., R.N., aged 73. He was the last survivor of the band of British medical officers who, after their professional inspection of the body of Napoleon, followed it to its resting-place in St. Helena.

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Ladies' Self-adjusting Corsets, to fasten in front, 2s. 6d. and 12s. 6d.
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FORD'S EUREKA SHIRTS.—Best quality, Six for 42s.; second quality, six for 33s.; can only be obtained in London, ready-made or to measure, at 38, Poultry, Bank. Price-lists and self-measurement post-free.

WANTED LEFT-OFF CLOTHES.—Mr. and Mrs. LAVY (successors to Messrs. Sander) continue to give the highest price for Ladies' and Gentlemen's LEFT-OFF CLOTHES of every description.—Regimentals, Epaulets, Swords, and all Miscellaneous Property. Ladies and Gentlemen having any of the above for disposal can be waited on at their residences, by letter addressed to Mr. or Mrs. Lavy, 2, 1, Strand (opposite Twining's Banking Establishment). For all parcels from the country a post-office order remitted by return of post. Established 65 years.

INFANTS' NEW FEEDING BOTTLES.—From the "Lancet":—"We have seldom seen anything so beautiful as the Feeding-Bottles now used by Mr. HEATH," 150, Oxford-street. Whether for weaning, rearing by hand, or occasional feeding, they are quite unrivalled. 7s. 6d. each.

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TO Noblemen, Gentlemen, and others.—FOR SALE, a WORKING MODEL LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE and TENDER, of 1½-inch scale, of beautiful design and first-class workmanship. Exhibited at the Great Exhibition of 1851 (Class 5, No. 714).—Apply to JAMES HINTT, Maker, Gainsborough.

AN ASSORTMENT of First-class Single and Double BROUGHAMS and CLARENCES, from 85 guineas; several secondhand ditto, from 45 guineas, at ELLIOTT'S, 85, Westminster-bridge-road. The original Inventor and Patentee of Carriages on Elliptic springs without perch.

COLT'S SIX-SHOT REVOLVERS—the favourite size for Officers, Army and Navy, weight 2 lb. 8 oz., rifle-bored. Also, three sizes POCKET REVOLVERS, for Travellers and House Protection. Holsters, Belts, Pouches, Cartridges. A large stock (of London made) ready for immediate delivery. Description and Price-lists furnished. Order of the Patentee and Manufacturer, SAMUEL COLT, 14, Pall-mall, London. Beware of counterfeits.

REVOLVERS.—Large assortment of Adams's Improved Patents, Colt's, and all the highly-approved systems in endless variety. Double Pocket Pistols, &c., &c., suitable for defence.—REILLY, Gun Makers, 502, New Oxford-street, London.

TO ANGLERS.—CHARLES FARLOW, 191, Strand, manufacturer of superior FISHING RODS and TACKLE, at moderate prices. Catalogues gratis.

SPORTSMEN and GENTLEMEN of the ARMY and NAVY.—S. and B. SOLOMONS, Opticians, 39, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly. Observe, opposite the York Hotel. —Portability, combined with great power in FIELD, RACE-COURSE, OPERA, and general out-door day and night powerful Waistcoat-pocket PERSPECTIVE GLASSES, weighing only four ounces, each containing 12 and 18 lenses, constructed of German glass, will show distinctly a person's countenance at 2½ and 3 miles. They serve every purpose on the Race-course, and at the Operahouses. Country scenery and Ships are clearly seen at 8 to 10 miles. They are also invaluable for Shooting, Deer-stalking, and Yachting. Her Majesty's Coast-Guards are now making use of them as day and night glasses, in preference to all others; they have also become in general use by Gentlemen of the Army and Navy, and by Sportsmen, Gentlemen, Gamekeepers, and Tourists. The most powerful and brilliant Telescopes, possessing such extraordinary power that some, 3½ inches, with an extra astronomical eye-piece, will show distinctly Jupiter's moons, Saturn's ring, and the double stars; with the same Telescope can be seen a person's countenance three-and-a-half miles distant, and an object from fourteen to sixteen miles. All the above can be had of larger and all sizes, with increasing powers, and are secured by her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.

EYESIGHT.—Optical Improvements, to enable persons at an advanced age to read with ease, and to discriminate objects with perfect distinctness.—Messrs. SOLOMONS, Opticians, have invented and patented SPECTACLE LENSES of the greatest transparent power. The valuable advantage derived from this invention is that, instead of vision becoming strained, heated, weakened, and in numerous cases seriously injured, it is preserved and strengthened; and very aged persons are enabled to employ their sight at the most minute occupation; can see with these lenses of a much less magnifying power, and they do not require the frequent changes to the dangerous effects of further powerful assistance. Persons can be suited at the most remote parts of the world by sending a pair of spectacles, or one of the glasses out of them, in a letter, and stating the distance from the eyes they can read small print with it, and those who have not made use of spectacles by stating their age.—39, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly (opposite the York Hotel).

DEAFNESS.—A newly-invented Instrument for extreme cases of Deafness, called the Sound Magnifier, Organic Vibrator, and Invisible Voice Conductor. It fits so into the ear as not to be in the least perceptible; the unpleasant sensation of singing noises in the head is entirely removed. It affords instant relief the deafest persons, and enables them to hear distinctly at church and public assemblies.—Messrs. SOLOMONS, Opticians and Aurists, 39, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, opposite the York Hote

THE FROST. — SELF REGISTERING THERMOMETERS, showing the extremes of heat and cold. CALLAGHAN'S, 23A, New Bond-street (corner of Conduit-street).—Sole agent for the small and powerful Opera-glasses and Race-glasses invented and made by Voigtlander, Vienna.

THE CONTINENTAL WINE COMPANY, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, continue to supply their ALTO DOURO PORTS at 42s. per dozen. Pale or Gold Sherry, at 30s. and 36s. Country orders must contain a remittance

TWENTY SHILLINGS per DOZEN, pure and wholesome Red and White SOUTH AFRICAN WINE, suitable for dinner or dessert. Sample bottle for 24 stamps.—J. L. DENMAN, Wine Importer, 65, Fenchurch-street, London.

BURGUNDY PORT, and SHERRY SACK, 2s. 4d. per bottle, or 28s. per dozen (bottles included), the exquisite prize wines of the Paris Exhibition of 1855.—F. W. SELLERS, 1, Chapel-place, Cavendish-square. Orders at 37, Crutchedfriars.

NO VENT-PEG REQUIRED for BARLOW'S SYPHON TAP. By all means see its action explained. Price 4s. 6d.; Electro-plated, 7s. each. Engravings gratis, or post-free.—James Barlow, 14, King William-street, Mansion-house.

THE BEST FOOD FOR CHILDREN, INVALIDS, AND OTHERS
ROBINSON'S PATENT BARLEY, for making superior Barley Water in fifteen minutes, has not only obtained the patronage of her Majesty and the Royal Family, but has become of general use to every class of the community, and is acknowledged to stand unrivalled as an eminently pure, nutritious, and light food for infants and invalids; much approved for making a delicious custard pudding, and excellent for thickening broths or soups. ROBINSON'S PATENT GROATS for more than thirty years have been held in constant and increasing public estimation as the purest farinæ of the oat, and as the best and most valuable preparation for making a pure and delicate Gruel, which forms a light and nutritious supper for the aged, is a popular recipe for colds and influenza, is of general use in the sick-chamber, and, alternately with the Patent Barley, is an excellent food for infants and children. Prepared only by the Patentees, ROBINSON, BELLEVILLE, and CO., Purveyors to the Queen, 64, Red-lion-street, Holborn, London. Sold by all respectable Grocers, Druggists, and others in town and country, in packets of 6d. and 1s.; and Family Canisters, at 2s., 5s., and 10s, each.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH, used in the Royal Laundry.
The Ladies are respectfully informed that this starch is Exclusive'y used in the Royal Laundry;
And her Majesty's Laundress says that although she has tried Wheaten, Rice, and other Powder Starches,
She has found none of them equal to the Glenfield, which is the Finest Starch she ever used.
WOTHERSPOON and CO., Glasgow and London.

BRUISE YOUR OATS! MAKE YOUR BREAD! to have it pure, at less than 6d.; keep horses at 7s. 6d. per week. Book on each 6d. Machines for either from £3, worked by a lad. MARY WEDLAKE & CO., 118, Fenchurch-street

OLDRIDGE'S BALM of COLUMBIA, acknowledged for the last forty years to be the most effectual remedy produced for Restoring the Hair and Promoting the Growth of Whiskers and Mustachios. In bottles, 3s. 6d., 6s., and 11s. Wholesale and retail, 13, Wellington-street North, Strand.

JAMES LEWIS'S MARROW OIL for the HAIR; Jockey Club, Frangipanni, and Wood-Violet Perfumes for the Handkerchief; and Iodine Soap for the Skin.—Manufactory, 6, Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn; and Crystal Palace.

THE BEST OIL in the WORLD.—Pure French Colza Oil, 5s. per gallon.—Messrs. Lemaire, of Paris.—Sole Depot, the LONDON SOAP and CANDLE COMPANY, 76, New Bond-street. Moderator globes, chimneys, cottons. Repairs, &c., by French workmen, at Paris prices.

BRECKNELL'S SKIN SOAP recommended as the best for producing a clear and healthy Skin, being the Old Yellow Soap made expressly for the purpose of the best materials, and not scented. Sold only in One Shilling Packets, of four rounded tablets or cakes each. BRECKNELL'S GLYCERINE SOAP for use during the cold weather when the Skin is liable to become chapped or rough. Also generally for Children and persons of delicate skin. Sold also in Packets in four tablets, price Eighteen-pence.—Brecknell, Turner, and Sons, Wax and Tallow Chandlers, Soap and Oil Merchants, &c., to her Majesty, Bee Hive, 31 and 32, Haymarket, London. Please observe each piece is stamped "Brecknell's Skin Soap" or "Brecknell's Glycerine Soap."

WHITE and SOFT HANDS all through the WINTER.—The LONDON SOAP and CANDLE COMPANY, 76, New Bond-street, have prepared a new WINTER SKIN SOAP, which, for persons of delicate use, will produce the softest of hands and the whitest of skin even in the coldest weather and hardest water. It is agreeably perfumed, and beautifully soft in use.
Sold in bars, 1s. per lb. Sole dépôt.

COCKERELL and CO.'S BEST COALS ONLY.—For Price see the "Times" daily. Central Office, 13, Cornhill; Purfleet Wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars; and Eaton Wharf, Belgrave-place, Pimlico

BENZINE COLLAS CLEANS
Gloves, Silks, | Cloth. Carpets, &c. &c.
In Bottles, 1s. 6d., of all Chemists and Perfumers.

DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS, for Asthma, Consumption, Coughs, Colds, and all Disorders of the Breath and Lungs. They have a pleasant taste. Price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box. Sold by all Chemists.

AGENCY for a VALUABLE MANURE.—A Manufacturer is open to appoint a few respectable Agents for his Manure, which commands a ready sale, as its goodness is certified by 2000 Testimonials from all parts of the United Kingdom, and by many

"HOMEWARD BOUND." PAINTED BY J. W. CARMICHAEL.—(SEE PAGE 11.

SKETCHES IN NAPLES.

THE "CALESSO," OR "CURRICOLO."

THE "CALESSO" OR "CURRICOLO."

(From our own Correspondent.)

AMONGST the most extraordinary spectacles now to be witnessed in Naples is that perhaps of the calesso or curricolo. What a singular carriage it is! The seat is a tripod, resting on a pole with two lofty wheels, which by their rapid movement create a continual cloud of dust. The horse, a wretched-looking animal, is generally full of ardor, and presses forward at a rapid pace which it never slackens, even though the driver as he goes collects his passengers, who thrust themselves in by your side without any ceremony. Perhaps you will complain to coachee, but he has long since given up his seat, and is now standing behind almost concealed by the new faces which one by one have made their appearance. Whilst the front and the back of the carriage have been thus filling, two or three persons will have clam-

NEAPOLITAN CAVALRY AND INFANTRY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

bered up and seated themselves at your feet; and even the net which is suspended beneath has received its contributions of children and dogs. And now away flies the horse to Pozzuoli or Portici. The driver stands behind, holding in one hand the reins and in the other a whip, which he never ceases to crack. As for the steed he is decked out more gaily than we can describe—the most showy ribbons adorn the mane, and plumes of various colours nod upon his head. He is full of life and spirit, and to look at him with all his splendid trappings galloping along at his utmost speed, you would never dream that he was dragging after him sixteen or seventeen human beings. Quaint and unmodish as the calesso is, we are inclined to think that it was the immediate successor to the biga, not merely in Naples but in Italy generally. This conjecture is supported by the universal sentiment here, as well as by ancient designs and pictures; and, if there be any truth in it, the calesso, in its history, affords another argument to show how, in the progress of improvement, what was admired and used but yesterday is set aside for some new idea of the morrow. So is it by a law of our natures. Away with moralizing, however. Besides, who can reflect or reason on the top of a calesso? We are going at the rate of ten miles an hour; our fellow passengers are singing and shouting; our driver is smacking his unwearied whip; and before we can reconcile ourselves to the novel mode of travelling we have arrived at Pozzuoli, minus, it is to be hoped, nothing more than a few grains, the price of our fare.

THE ROYAL BODY-GUARD (HORSE).

In order to become a member of the Royal Body-Guard, a person must have a title of nobility, and deposit 3000 ducats caution money: with a petition, and certain other requisites, after satisfactory information has been obtained, an entrance is ensured. The length of service in this body is six years; after which one obtains his commission, and enters other corps. The duty of these troops is to follow, to accompany, and escort Royal personages when they go out on public ceremonials. Their pay is fifteen ducats a month (equal to £2 16s.)—hardly enough to maintain their horse. Every other expense is defrayed by themselves. There are about 100 persons in this body. We have given two Sketches of a soldier of this corps—one in *grande tenue* (No. 1) the other in undress (No. 2).

No. 1. The helmet is gilt, with tiger's skin, and a black tail. The coat is blue, the ornaments of breast and the epaulets are of silver. Gloves yellow and wristbands white. The pantaloons are of white flannel, and buttons of dress of silver.

No. 2. The coat, as also the pantaloons, are blue—the ornaments of silver. The hat black, with a white feather and red border.

The horsecloth is blue, with silver ornaments and white trimmings. The appearance of this corps is as rich as that of any body of troops we have ever seen.

THE ROYAL BODY-GUARD (FOOT).

This body consists entirely of veteran sergeants, who had obtained their discharge from different branches of the Army, but are still capable of service. Their duty is to stand guard at the gates of the Sovereign and of Royal personages whenever they go anywhere in public form. They assist also at the extraction of the Lottery, which abstract personage is thus surrounded with the dignity of Royalty. In this body there are about 150 men.

The hat worn by this corps is of black skin, with a white feather, a gilt front plate, and red tassel. The coat is blue, with wristband and collar red; the epaulets and buttons of silver; the pantaloons are of white flannel, and the gaiters are black. Altogether the uniform is one of the richest and in the best taste with which we are acquainted.

THE 13TH REGIMENT OF SWISS

Consists of nearly 2000 men of every nationality except Italian. With no bond of country either amongst themselves or to the service in which they had entered; hired in the streets, and not by virtue of any agreement between Governments, they are truly mercenary soldiers; money is the sole object at which they aim, and money is the only guarantee of their fidelity.

Their chaco is black with a yellow border; button-holes, wristbands, and collars yellow, as are the buttons and epaulets; the pantaloons for summer are white, whilst those for winter are grey; their capote is grey, and sack of white skin.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.

Saturday last being the first day appointed by the Court of Bankruptcy for a division among the creditors of the salvage realised out of the wreck of this unfortunate affair, there was a formidable "rush" of all entitled to participate in it to the head offices in Threadneedle-street, where the following notice was posted up:—

"NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

"Threadneedle-street, Jan. 3, 1857.

"In Bankruptcy.—Re Royal British Bank.

"For the accommodation of creditors, all dividend warrants delivered out by the official assignee in the above matter on this Saturday, the 3rd, and on Monday next, the 5th of January, will be paid here until four o'clock on the above days (instead of at 82, Basinghall-street), upon being presented at the counter."

So besieged was the building that the police had to be called in to assist the officers and porters of the bank. It was, however, found difficult to preserve order, in consequence of the presence of a large number of females and others, who, under the influence of exasperated feelings, caused considerable uproar, which was materially augmented by the insubordination of two or three intoxicated creditors, whose conduct compelled those within to close the doors of the bank, and to admit the applicants only by a dozen at a time. This increased the agitation outside, which developed itself in violent declamatory observations on the rascality of the concern, while many gave vent to still more violent demonstrations, by belabouring the brass plates of the "Royal British Bank" with their sticks, umbrellas, and knuckles. Altogether about 2000 creditors out of the entire 6000 were summoned to attend, as far as L on the list. As a matter of course they were true to their appointment, and great blame was freely cast by them on the want of regularity and arrangement that characterised the proceedings. There were present the clerks of the Bank of England with their "ledgers;" the official assignee in bankruptcy, with his staff of clerks and solicitors; Messrs. Linklater and Hackwood; the clerks and officers of the defunct bank; and the Accountant-General of the Court of Chancery. The first dividend of 5s. 6d. in the pound was delivered in by the official assignee to each of the applicant creditors summoned, and the amount was paid upon the spot on its being presented to the Accountant-General. This caused considerable delay and inconvenience—a circumstance that would not have occurred had the creditors been directed to go and take their warrants immediately to the bank to be cashed. It is supposed that between £100,000 and £200,000 was thus paid over. Considerable confusion, it was stated, was occasioned by some of the dividends being erroneously calculated; and many creditors who had proved their debts in Chancery only were highly indignant on being told that, not having proved in bankruptcy, they were not entitled to receive the dividend until they were proved over again in bankruptcy. Another subject matter of complaint appeared to be that all parties were refused to participate in the dividend who were liable for bills discounted on the 1st of September, when the bank stopped payment, although these bills have run off since. One creditor had a certificate of the proof of his debt, with the Commissioner of Bankruptcy's signature, but on pressing it for payment it was refused, although he had been liable on a great number of bills, only one of which now remained. The result will, it is understood, be an application to the Commissioner on the subject, the Commissioner having allowed the creditor to set off the amount of this remaining bill, of which he was the drawer.

THE FRENCH PRESS.—M. Nefftzer, the able *rédacteur en chef* of the *Presse*, avails himself of an attack in the *Union* upon M. Emile de Girardin to defend his late chief, and at the same time to issue a sort of political manifesto of the course to be adopted by the journal under the new proprietorship. The *Union* lately said that when M. de Girardin founded the *Presse*, in 1836, he, for the first time, made a newspaper a commercial speculation (*une affaire*), instead of an organ of political convictions. In answer to this, M. Nefftzer, alluding pleasantly to the small circulation of the *Union*, says that, although it may preach in the desert, its editors certainly do not pretend to be fed by celestial ravens, like the prophet Elias. He contests that the *Union* was ever a power, although it was always a bad speculation; whereas M. de Girardin has been a consistent and obstinate advocate of liberty, while the sympathies of the public have ensured the prosperity of his journal. M. Nefftzer pledges his honour to preserve M. E. de Girardin's liberal principles as the patrimony of the *Presse*. He differs from his late master in this, that he cannot admit the utter uselessness of newspapers in France at the present moment. Had he thought so he would have followed M. de Girardin into his retirement. But he thinks that discussion, however fettered it may be, is more useful than silence, and he is resolved to enjoy to the utmost extent such liberty of discussion as the Government will allow him, nothing doubting that the public, as it has hitherto done, will make full allowance for the difficulties by which the profession of a journalist in France is surrounded.—*Letter from Paris.*

THE METROPOLITAN DRAINAGE.

HOW TO RAISE THE MONEY.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

A DEPUTATION from the Metropolitan Board of Works has waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The prudent reserve of the right honourable Baronet, when directly applied to, to raise the money on the security of the Government and afterwards lend it to the Metropolitan Board of Works to enable them to complete their still-unsettled scheme of drainage; and the admirable and most judicious remarks of some of the newspapers induce me to trouble you with a few thoughts explanatory of a scheme by which the necessary means may be secured for the execution of the work, without pressing on any branch of regular industry. All exceptional or occasional public works requiring the expenditure of any considerable sum of money have the tendency to draw from the usual branches of trade and commerce of a locality or country an amount of money—the vital principle of their existence, and without which they shrivel, dwarf, and die—calculated to derange the ordinary condition of industrial enterprise. This is an acknowledged fact and an admitted evil, whether the expenditure happens to be abroad or at home. If abroad, the evil is prolonged, because the circle to be traversed before the money can return is greatly extended. But even at home, where industry is fostered to the fullest extent, it sometimes happens, as during the railway excitement and subsequent panic, that all the available money of the country is insufficient to pay the wages of the people. Hence the anomaly that what is *industrially* an indisputable national good may *financially* become a national disaster. Therefore it is that I venture to propose a plan by which means may be found to thoroughly drain the metropolis without the possibility of any pecuniary inconvenience or difficulty arising during the progress of the works, or from the ultimate redemption of the amount expended.

The present rateable value of property within the area of the metropolitan district is stated by the Chairman of the Board of Works to be £11,150,000. The sum required to complete the projected works, and pay off the scores of the old Commissioners, is estimated at £4,000,000. To repay the principle and interest in fifty years an annual rate of 3¾d. in the pound is declared necessary. This rate will produce annually £116,750, which in fifty years will amount to £8,337,500—being considerably more than double the original cost. Should the plan I propose find acceptance, and be adopted, a rate of 2d. in the pound would be ample. This would effect a saving to the ratepayers of 1¾d. in the pound—amounting to £74,750 per annum, or £3,737,500, in the entire period of fifty years: a sum sufficient to embank the Thames from London-bridge to Westminster, without pressing more heavily on the ratepayers than is now proposed by the Chief of the Board of Works.

I suggest, then, that an account should be opened at the Bank of England called the Metropolitan Board of Works' account. That, as the works proceed, and money must be paid, the Bank of England should, by Act of Parliament, be empowered to issue specific warrants, or certificates of work, of £5 and upwards, to the contractors, with which they should pay for debts incurred, wages, &c. Such warrants should be declared legal tender throughout the metropolitan districts, and be receivable in payment of all local and other rates. Being receivable in payment of the rate on which their validity rested would secure their unchanging value. Their worth being undoubted, they would pass current, and be accepted with all the confidence that appertains to a note of the Bank of England, as will presently be more clearly shown.

The amount of value of rateable property as already named would by a rate of 2d. in the pound produce £92,000. Deducting at the rate of five per cent £4600 a year for collectors' poundage, and £7400 for contingencies, would leave the sum of £80,000 as a balance which in fifty years would cancel the debt of £4,000,000 originally contracted. Or should it be decided that a rate of 4d. in the pound could be levied, and would be paid, the sum would be redeemed in twenty-five years—so that one generation of London would not only see the desirable work accomplished, but all the expenses paid. No depreciation in the warrant could ever take place so long as the rate was levied against which the warrant was issued. The rate and the warrant would by the law that created them expire together.

The remuneration to the Bank of England for the duties it would be called upon to perform would undoubtedly be with that distinguished body a matter of no small importance. I would, therefore, propose to allow it the privilege of superintending the reissue of all surplus warrants received by Government; on which they should be permitted to charge the ordinary rate of interest, as if they were issuing their own notes. Care, however, should be taken that a due and proper account was kept between the Exchequer and the Bank, and the statement of warrants on hand liable to reissue duly announced in the *Gazette* along with the usual Bank returns.

Permit me to anticipate a few objections that may be urged by money-lenders and professed financiers who follow the beaten track without venturing to inquire whether the usual course is the best that could be adopted, or whether a wiser policy than that which obtains might not be suggested. Some will stigmatise the idea as wild and visionary, and altogether unworthy the attention of a practical people; albeit, their own Government Bonds are often refused by the sages of the City as documents of questionable security seen from their point of view. My answer to such is that the plan has been tried and found eminently successful. Although on a scale considerably smaller it was nevertheless large enough to prove the accuracy of the principle.

Others may hail it as a capital plan to enable them to launch ideal schemes of a speculative nature, having no revenue certain or probable, beyond aerial profits culled in the regions of hope. Such schemers must understand that the plan proposed can only be adopted where the revenue is regular and absolutely certain. In the case before us there can be no loss. Properly conducted, anything like failure, or even peril, would be utterly impossible.

A difficulty of weight might arise as to the possibility of keeping such an amount of warrants in circulation and in favour with the public for twenty-five or fifty years; and, should they become tattered through age, how could their substance be renewed? No document will ever suffer the slightest diminution in public favour so long as it pays rates and cancels other obligations. To keep them in circulation, Government should possess the power to reissue such warrants as they might become possessed of (beyond the value of the £80,000 to be cancelled annually), in payment of official salaries, Government *employés* and contractors, dockyard and other public functionaries engaged within the metropolitan district. As the warrants would, doubtless, be worked severely, and made to move from hand to hand quickly, to ensure their decent appearance and constant renewal,—no warrant should be issued a second time. But it should never be split up, altered in value, or have its original number changed. Over or preceding the original number should be placed a serial letter denoting the number of times it had been renewed, such marks to be known only in the registrar's office of the Bank of England. These however, are merely matters of detail which experienced officials in the Bank could promptly arrange, so as to secure safe, efficient, and regular working. The one principle on which my scheme is based is that, instead of depositing Exchequer Bills, or other warrants bearing interest, and receiving in return other warrants bearing no interest, it would be wiser to make the original bills or warrants circulate as money, under such restraints and in such amounts as might be deemed necessary for the protection and convenience of the public.

Another doubt may be suggested. Could the trade and general business of the entire metropolitan district float in daily use so large an addition to the notes and cheques now circulating? I answer "Yes!" because the warrants would not supersede any instrument, principle, or practice now in use, but in all cases assist in performing the work hitherto confined to Bank of England notes and cheques. Should it be found profitable, some of the Bank of England notes might, like favourite actors, perform a provincial tour, and gladden many hearts, and afterwards be received with undiminished honour by their friends in town. As regards cheques no anxiety need exist. If merchants found it more convenient to pay the warrants than to draw cheques, they would, and, if they did not, they would not.

Such are a few of the obvious objections I have endeavoured to answer, and such is the scheme I throw down to be taken up and welcomed, or tossed about and worried, according to the disposition, judgment, or self-interest of the persons undertaking to discuss the question. That the plan is faultless I do not pretend to assert, but I am persuaded that such faults could easily be remedied, if honestly undertaken. That it would work I have every confidence. That the warrants would be negotiable I have not the slightest doubt. That they would be as little liable to forgery as any other document circulating as money I am equally certain. Above all, when proved—as I feel confident it would be—a great success, it would render possible many things looked upon as impossible and improbable. Some questions might be solved by two or three years' experience from which men of genius have turned in despair. We might probably discover some principles well worthy the adoption of the nation, having the well-being of the entire people, and not alone the advantage of the metropolitan section—though a most important section—at heart. At all events it would be demonstrated how all the various public improvements suggested might be accomplished: giving breadth to the streets and convenience to the traffic, necessitated by the growth of the population and the proportionate increase of the commercial transactions of London.

Trusting you will find space for these remarks—all I desire being a full and fair discussion—and apologising for the length to which they have been extended, I remain, your obedient servant,

City, 3rd Jan., 1857. B.

P.S.—Though I suggest a plan for raising the means, I beg most emphatically to dissent from the plan of drainage said to be adopted.

WANT OF GOOD HOUSEWIVES IN AMERICA.—We have seldom initiated a more wholesome agitation than by a recent article on the average food of our countrymen, or rather their average cookery. The multiplicity of the letters drawn out by that article shows that we have probed a tender spot. We shall repeat the operation from time to time, and hope thus to be instrumental in working a great and much-needed reform. It would be provoking, if it were not amusing, to note how much ingenuity is shown in perverting what we said. Thus one lady writes boastingly of her milk, butter, fresh vegetables, fresh eggs, fine fruits, pure water, and wonders how we can pretend that city people have equally good. Why, madam, we never thought of such a thing. You in the country have incomparably the best materials from which to prepare food—nobody ever doubted that; but it is the use you make of those materials that we criticised. Your table may be a model of good judgment and good cookery; we know those that are: but this is by no means the general case. On the contrary, we know some of the finest fruit sections in our country in which you will not be offered a particle of fruit with breakfast or dinner for at least nine months in each year; salt pork, poor bread, and a muddy preparation that they call coffee are the staple of breakfast; and the same, *minus* the coffee and *plus* a lot of watery potatoes, are the substance of most dinners. Should not this be reformed? It is far dearer, less nourishing, less palatable, less wholesome, than a more varied, digestible, and savoury fare. Our young ladies—there being no girls now, except Irish—are educated to play the piano somehow, to work sundry articles in embroidery or otherwise, which we could not safely name and would prefer not to judge, and to imagine they know something of the ologies; but their education for the management and oversight of a household is sadly neglected. It is rather hard that a young mechanic, with no fortune but his hands, having just married a wife, should be compelled the next month to hire an Irish girl to cook his dinner; but that is often the case. Let a family in the country be visited by sickness, so as absolutely to need feminine help, and if there be not an Irish colony within easy reach they must suffer; for the great mass of our farmers' daughters are too proud, too ignorant, or too indolent, to do housework, even for good pay. These be deplorable truths; it was not so in the days of our grandmothers, and it must be otherwise in the days of our children. We might proceed with comments on the misapprehensions and blunders of our indignant culinary correspondents; but we will let their productions serve as critiques on each other. Once for all, we repeat that the country people have far better materials for food than can be secured by families in like circumstances in the cities—and some of them improve their advantages, but the great majority do not. They ought to live much better than they do, considering the resources they have from which to prepare their food. They ought to bathe far more than they do, and have better-ventilated apartments, especially sleeping-rooms. Those who are growing up to be farmers' and mechanics' wives ought to think more, study more, and practise more with reference to their prospective household duties, even though they should have to omit their piano lessons and stay away from the dancing-school to that end. These be sober truths, and the best housewives know it.—*New York Tribune.*

A NOVEL WAR.—We learn from the last batch of papers forwarded to us by our Calcutta correspondent that another Indian war is on the eve of breaking out. Indian wars have been of such frequent occurrence since the British got footing in the great Asiatic peninsula that this intelligence will not, of course, much surprise our readers. But the war which is now impending there is of an extraordinary and unique character, and different in every respect from all that ever went before it. It is not against a Hyder Ali or a Tippoo Saib—it is not against the fanatical Sikhs or the heroic Affghans—that this war is to be waged. The enemy with which the British will now have to contend is of a more savage and sanguinary nature than even they; and the accounts of him which we glean from our Indian papers recall to our memory those half-discredited stories that Herodotus tells us about the terrific monsters which spread dismay among the little communities of Hellas in the mythical ages. The war, in fact, which the British are now about to wage in India will be a war against tigers, not men. It is with the quadruped, not the biped, of the forest that the masters of that great country will now have to do battle. Nor will this war be offensive on their part, but purely defensive. The enemy has been in the present instance the aggressor. He has rushed out of his jungles and fastnesses, and devastated their territory, and put their people to flight, so that the land is now a wilderness, and its inhabitants too poor to pay the accustomed tribute. In a word, an army of tigers has invaded a district of the Nerbuddah territory, driven away its occupiers, taken possession of their property, and left the Anglo-Indian Government minus a revenue amounting annually to a lac and fifty thousand rupees. The journals do not say what warrior is to command the Volunteer Corps; but doubtless some chief high in reputation among the Indian Generals will receive the appointment. Whether the felines will be able to hold their own against the force which is about to be sent against them we shall not venture to predict; but even the Britishers, who are apt to underrate the prowess and strength of their foes, admit that it will take at least two sanguinary campaigns to extirpate and overcome tigerdom. In due season we shall of course be apprised of the result.—*New York Times.*

SPIRITUALISM.—The spiritualists of New York have resolved themselves into two factions—the "Christians" and the "Non-Christians"—the former acknowledging the divinity of the Saviour. These have established a separate church. The congregations number several hundred each.

Memorabilia,

LITERARY, ANTIQUARIAN, SCIENTIFIC, AND ARTISTIC.

"A little chink may let in much light."—OLD PROVERB.

MEDAL FOR ARCTIC DISCOVERIES.

THE medal which the Queen, without solicitation of any kind, has been graciously pleased to bestow on those who were engaged in the Arctic discoveries from 1818 to 1855, although in size the same as the war medals, is strikingly distinguished by the peculiarity of its form, which is octagonal. This occasions a loss of surface around the bust, and somewhat impairs the breadth of its effect, but the fault is amply compensated by the design and execution of the bust itself, in which are combined the placid dignity of habitual command, and the life-like expression of thoughtful, matronly, grace. The hair is very tastefully arranged, and bound with a javelled fillet, and on the brow is a tiara, edged with pearls, which being placed on a line with the forehead, adds intellectuality to the countenance. This portrait is more particularly interesting from its resemblance to her Majesty as she appears at this day. The likeness on the war medals being from the die engraved by the late William Wyon, R.A., at an early period of her reign. The present bust is the first medal-portrait of the Queen which has been executed since the death of that distinguished artist, and proves that his mantle has worthily descended to his son. In common with the war medals it is inscribed simply "Victoria Regina," which we take leave to think is a mistake. Where sovereign power is expressed, the derivation and extent of that power may without ostentation be clearly defined; and we should have preferred seeing her Majesty's titles in full, and these too in a language which the recipients speak and understand. Is there anything discreditable or deficient in the English tongue that, on occasions like the present, its living energy should be relegated for a stiffened mummy embalmed nearly 2000 years? Which war cry, amid the horrors of Alma and Inkerman, would best have steeled the arm and nerved the heart of her gallant soldiers, "Hurrah for the Queen!" or "Vivat Regina!"? The Latin would have fallen flat as a dead shell in a quagmire; while the native household words would have sent a flush of blood from heart to brow, and for a moment made a hero of the lowest in the ranks. Why, in the name of common sense, then, should her Majesty's approbation of their services be lessened by an inscription which is probably unintelligible to three out of every four of those on whom it is conferred?

The reverse of the Arctic medal presents us with a northern scene. In the distance is an exploring ship laid up in the sea between two icebergs, dismantled and roofed in for the winter. In front, on shore, is a sledging party setting off for inland exploration. The whole is very ably engraved, and tells all that such a scene admits. Inscribed, "For Arctic Discoveries," "1818-1855." Obverse and reverse engraved by Leonard Charles Wyon, of H.M. Mint.

In our next we shall engrave the war medal for her Majesty's fleets in the Baltic, 1854-55, the work of the same artist.

INEDITED LETTER OF SIR WALTER SCOTT.

The following inedited letter of Sir Walter Scott was addressed to the late Mr. Samuel Parker, in answer to a written request from that gentleman that Sir Walter would furnish a subject for the reverse of a large medal of George IV. The Royal medal, together with one commemorative of Scott's literary services, accompanied Mr. Parker's letter:—

"SIR,—I would long ere now have answered your very obliging letter with the medals. That representing our Sovereign seems most beautifully executed, and is a striking resemblance. I have very little turn for imaginary mottoes, it being long since I read the classics, which are the great storehouse of such things. I incline to think that a figure or head of Neptune upon the reverse, with the motto round the exergue, 'Tridens Neptuni Sceptrum Muudi,' would be better than any motto more personally addressed to the King himself, than to his high kingly office. I cannot, of course, be a judge of the other medal; but such of my family as are with me, think it is very like. If there is any motto to be added, I should like the line—'Bardorum Citharas Patrio qui reddidit Istro,' because I am far more vain of having been able to fix some share of public attention upon the ancient poetry and manners of my country, than of any original effort which I have been able to make in literature. I beg you will excuse the delay which has taken place; your obliging communication with the packet which accompanied it, travelled from country to town, and from town to country, as it chanced to miss me upon the road.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obliged, humble servant,

Edinburgh, May 29th [no year]. WALTER SCOTT.

NOTES.

OLD SIGNS IN LONDON.—Until lately there was a remarkably fine old sign to be seen upon a house in Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, built soon after the Fire of 1666, and called the Three Foxes. These animals were carved in relief, on stone, sitting in a row, with the date beneath of (I think) 1670. Within the last few months the house was taken for occupation by an eminent firm in the legal profession, consisting of *three* partners, who, probably deeming that the sign would have too much the appearance of a standing joke, had the surface of the stone filled up and rendered smooth with Roman cement.—L. A. B. W.

SHAKSPEARE AND BACON.—I won't have Bacon. I will have my own cherished "Will." I have borne a great deal, and never changed my faith. I have seen him chipped, mauled, befribbled and overdone. I have seen upholsterers and classic managers cloud his glories in fustian and explanations. I have heard shouts against his anachronisms, and anathemas against his want of the unities and ignorance of Greek; but never thought that an Englishman, and a "Smith," would try to prove that he was a swindler—a thief—a jackdaw—and died, in the odour of sanctity, the pilferer of Bacon. Have we no literary police—no pen jealous of the honour of our "immortal bard"? Oh, for an hour with the giant Christopher North! Oh, for some swashing blows of his rhetorical cudgel to crush this fungus! I know the pestilent vapour will pass away, and the steady glories of Will. Shakspeare blaze forth again; but in the mean time we shiver under the passing cloud. First, a College of Monks wrote Shikspur; now it's the jurisprudist Bacon. Why not Sir Walter Raleigh? Why not Queen Elizabeth herself? But, as I began, we won't have "Bacon!"—JOHN BULL.

ANOTHER SHAKSPEAREAN DISCOVERY.—The interest excited by the "find" of a second copy of the quarto "Hamlet," 1603, has hardly subsided, when we hear that Mr. Staunton has succeeded in discovering the *habitat* of more than one copy of an edition of this play, that of 1604, considered of equal rarity with the far-famed quarto of 1603. The "Hamlet" of 1604, which, in the titlepage, is described as "Newly imprinted, and enlarged to almost as much againe as it was, according to the true and perfect coppie," was collated by Jennens, and is mentioned by Malone, Steevens, and Farmer, but no copy is to be found either in the Capell collection, at Cambridge, or in that of Malone, at Oxford.

QUERIES.

WHERE DOES DAY BEGIN?—It is a fact well known that ships circumnavigating the globe from east to west lose a day in the voyage; but has it ever been recorded where the discrepancy is first noticed?

W. SYMONS.

[The inquiry of W. S. originates in a mistake. The day necessarily begins in every part of the world with daylight as distinguished from night; both constitute a *nuchthemeron*, or day of twenty-four hours. Some reckon the day from noon, others from midnight, whilst the most ancient practice was to compute from sunrise to sunset. The navigator who proceeds from east to west, returning to the same point, loses a day in reckoning, as compared with the person who is stationary; because the navigator has overtaken the sun in one revolution of the globe. Supposing, on the other hand, that he circumnavigate from west to east, he gains a day, making one more day than the man who is stationary, because he has one sunset or sunrise additional.]

THE POPE'S TRIPLE CROWN.—What are the kingdoms on account of which the Pope is said to wear a triple crown?

[The Tiara, or triple crown, is called *regnum*, and is used by the Pope in going to and returning from church, in which place he assumes the mitre ("Sacrarum Cerimoniarum Sanctæ Romanæ Ecclesiæ," III., iii., § 5, c. 9). Boniface VIII. (1294—1303) was the first who adorned his diadem with a second crown, in sign of temporal and spiritual dominion. Urban V. (1362—1389) designed the *Triregnum*—a symbol, perhaps, of the mystic number, according to Tosi ("Corte di Roma," p 95). See Dr. Wordsworth's "Apocalypse," App. II., p. 163. The work of Tosi was approved by the Maestro del Jagro Palazzo, 5th of August, 1764; so that we cannot ascend to a higher official authority. It is to be borne in mind, however, that the Pope affects to be a mystery; and there wants a *rationale* to convert a *temporal* symbol of power into a *spiritual* symbol of the Divine Trinity. A more probable solution is that Boniface VIII. assumed the second crown in opposition to the claim of Austria, as King of the Romans; and that Urban V., a Frenchman, having taken up his residence at Avignon, leaving the Legate Albornez to defend the temporal interests of the Roman See in Italy, intended to show, by assuming a third crown, his temporal authority in France. If so, Napoleon III. may do well to reduce the Pope's crowns to Boniface's number, and arrange with Austria for divesting him of his second crown as King of the Romans (Sismondi. Rep. Ital., c. xxiv., p. 136, c. xlviii., p. 2).]

THE TOWN PRIEST.—The following hexameters may be seen in black letter over an ancient doorway in Northgate-street in this city:

En ruinosa domus quondam quam tunc renovavit
Monachus urbanus Osborne John rite vocatus.

In the "Merry Wives of Windsor," act ii., scene 1, occurs this passage, "I will not believe such a Cataian, though *the priest o' the town* commended him for a true man." Doubtless some gentle, and at the same time antiquarian, reader can give information as to the office and status of this functionary whom I take to be identical in the legend and in the play?—A. J. WOOD, Gloucester.

ANSWERS.

THE THREE CROCKS OF GOLD.—The origin of this legend is purely Eastern. It is given by Mr. Lane in his "Arabian Tales and Anecdotes," a collection interesting alike to the Oriental student and to the general reader, though I have a vague notion of having seen some kind of version of it in other, and even more venerable, Oriental literature. That it is Eastern, however, there can be no doubt, and may have come to us, like the great mass of the traditionary lore of the Western World, from ancient India—the fountain head (as it seems to me) not only of the mythologies and philosophies, but of the very traditions and folk-lore of the human race. I take the liberty of transcribing the Arabian legend as rendered by Mr. Lane:—

It is related that a man of Baghdad was possessed of ample riches and great wealth; but his wealth passed away and his state changed, and he became utterly destitute, and could not obtain his sustenance save by laborious exertion; and he slept one night, overwhelmed and oppressed, and saw in his sleep a person who said to him, "Verily, thy fortune is in Cairo; therefore seek it and repair to it." So he journeyed to Cairo; and when he arrived there the evening overtook him, and he slept in a mosque. Now there was adjacent to the mosque a house, and as God (whose name be exalted!) had decreed a party of robbers entered the mosque, and thence passed to that house; and the people of the house, awakening at the disturbance occasioned by the robbers, raised cries, whereupon the Walee (magistrate) came to their aid with his followers, and the robbers fled. The Walee then entered the mosque, and found the man of Baghdad sleeping there; so he laid hold of him and inflicted upon him a painful beating with the mikraahs until he was at the point of death, and imprisoned him, and he remained three days in the prison; after which the Walee caused him to be brought, and said to him, "From what country art thou?" He answered, "From Baghdad." "And what affair," said the Walee, "was the cause of thy coming to Cairo?" He answered, "I saw in my sleep a person who said to me, "Verily, thy fortune is in Cairo; therefore repair to it." And when I came to Cairo I found the fortune, of which he told me, to be those blows of the mikraahs that I have received from thee. And upon this the Walee laughed so that his grinders appeared, and said to him, "O thou of little sense, *I* saw three times in *my* sleep a person who said to me, 'Verily, a house in Baghdad, in such a district, and of such a description, hath in its court a garden, at the lower end of which is a fountain, wherein is wealth of great amount; therefore repair to it and take it.' But I went not; and thou, through the smallness of thy sense, has journeyed from city to city on account of a thing thou hast seen in sleep, when it was only an effect of confused dreams." Then he gave him some money, and said to him, "Help thyself with this to return to thy city." So he took it and returned to Baghdad. Now the house which the Walee had described, in Baghdad, was the house of that man; therefore, when he arrived at his abode, he dug beneath the fountain and beheld abundant wealth. Thus God enriched and sustained him, and this was a wonderful coincidence."

W. THEODORE WATTS, St. Ives, Hunts.

RAPIN DE THOYRAS.—In the different biographical notices of Paul de Rapin which I have seen no reference is made to his having been taken prisoner in Ireland. It is well known that he was so severely wounded in the assault on Limerick, in 1690, that he could not accompany his General into Flanders, but had to be left in Ireland. Is it not possible that he, with other wounded, may have been removed for security to the fort in Donegal referred to by your correspondent "R. D. W.," supposing such to have been in the hands of William? That any part of his "History of England" was written whilst there is highly improbable, as he is stated only to have commenced it at Wesel, about 1707, having finally left Ireland in 1693. Rapin resigned the command of his company in favour of his brother, who had served with him in Ireland, and who died a Lieut.-Colonel of Dragoon, in 1719.—THE GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDSON OF THE HISTORIAN.

ADMIRAL BYNG'S DEATH-WARRANT.—Notwithstanding that the twelve Judges to whom the sentence of death on Admiral Byng was referred for their opinion as to its legality declared it to be valid, and in every respect in order, Admiral John Forbes, then one of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, refused to sign the warrant for carrying out the sentence, and prepared a paper in which he assigned his reasons for his refusal. The document in possession of your correspondent may be the draught or even a copy in the Admiral's handwriting. The original, I believe, to be in the Admiralty-office at Whitehall, and is dated 16th Feb., 1757.—A NAVAL OFFICER, Island of Serpents, Black Sea

CURIOUS DEMAND.—SMOKE FARTHINGS.—These smoke farthings, which so puzzle "X. Y. Z.," were originally a certain impost levied by the clergy upon every person who kept a fire. The "hearth money," which was a similar tax, and extremely unpopular, was paid to the King. This latter impost was first levied in 1653, and its last collection was in 1690.—J. BUTTERWORTH.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L.—THE GAME OF MILL.—The game you allude to is the *jeu de merelles*, sometimes called "Nine Men's Morris," or "Merrils."—See Peck on Milton's "Masque," Vol. I., p. 135, and Notes to "Midsummer Nights' Dream" (Act ii., sc. 2), in the variorum Shakspeare.

F. A.—The Red Maids of Bristol are described in "Barrott's History of Bristol," p. 415.

F.—It is not a scarce work. (We take this opportunity of suggesting to Correspondents who inquire as to the value or rarity of particular books the advisability of their sending their names and addresses. It is obviously impossible within the limits at our command to print replies to one-tenth of such communications.)

MINNIE.—You will find the lines in Blair's poem, "The Grave."

LECTOR.—Your letter on the subject of the old organ in Chesham House is unintelligible.

HERCULES.—They are of no antiquarian value.

HENRY REED.—See "Henry VI.," Part I., Act I., Scene 3.

METHODIDATES, PAULINI, M. P., J. H. LEVEN, &c.—It is good enough to re-write their communications, and beg of each of them "Memorabilia." We trust this piece of advice second copies will probably share the fate of their former ones.

DIVES.—It is neither rare nor costly. The centre plates of Shakspeare's plays in most are those published before the 1623 folio edition. Of these there are many, still, we make no doubt, hidden away in old country libraries unknown even to their possessors.

MACKENZIE WALLCOTT.—Will this Correspondent favour us with a address? His letter is in parts obliterated and requires explanation.

RECEIVED.—G. J. Copley; W. Yarmouth; T. N. B., Chester; Cura, Scarby; A Subscriber, Halifax, Charles Rogers, Barnsley, Alpha, Genealogus, Birmingham, T. Walton, J. Jolines, A. S. S., Hon. L. H. Ellis Brussels; J. B., Enfield; Edward S., Delta, Ricardo, Vectis, F. Searle, Rose, S. Beta, E. W. C., M. A., A. B. C., T. H. L., Nul-tiel, F. C. B., W. R. R., E. and C.; S. H.; W. C., W. Beck, J. R. T., W. F., H. L. L., W. A., B. E. N., Humphrey Newland, P. L. de L., J. E., M. A. E., A Yankee Digger, Isle of Serpents; W. P., Black Sea; Edward Hesketh; An Old subscriber, W. J. P., E. C. W., William John Fitzpatrick, G. Daniel, Mackenzie Wallcott, A. M., J. W. Simpson; J. A., St. John's College, Cam.; Cyrus Fordham; J. P. M., Cork; F. E. T., E. M. J., S. D. C. J., Harmonica, W. T. Etherington, A. C. Graham, L. G.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. H. W.—Not without interest in itself, independently of the circumstances under which it was played; but the weakness of many moves, and the mistakes in others, render it unsuitable for publication.

J. K. FUNEY.—Received, with thanks, and now under examination.

A. C.—What could we give perpetual check in the position sent us Black may play King to Kt 4th, King to R 5th, and P to K Kt 6th, and then interpose his Queen

H. J. C. C. is thanked for the position. The moves, however, are so obvious that they could hardly be missed by a player of six months standing.

A MEMBER.—Such a challenge, if dictated in a friendly spirit, would do much to improve the relations of the two clubs, and should certainly have our cordial support. It would be a great treat to Chess also.

PAUL.—Your suggestion as to the propriety of turning the great Art Exhibition of Manchester to account by organising a Chess tourney in that city during the summer, may be worth the attention of the special Manchester Club.

J. K., Manchester.—Many thanks. It shall appear shortly.

G. H. P.—Arrangements are on the tapis to renew the Consultation Games, but with more power on what is called the "free parole." By declining to continue them Mr. Löwenthal admits what everybody felt, that he was completely overmatched. Mr. Horwitz and Signor Ubaldi, of Rome, are talked of as likely to engage in these contests after the meeting at Birmingham, which it is expected will induce the latter to visit this country in the spring.

*** The majority of our answers are postponed till next week from want of room.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 670.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to Q 2nd	R takes Q (best), or (*a*)
2. R to Q Kt 5th	R takes R (best)
3. Kt to K 6th	Anything
4. Kt to Q B 7th—Mate.	

(*a*) 1. R to Q Kt 5th | 3. Kt to Q B 7th (ch) K takes Kt
2. Kt to K 6th | K to Kt 4th (best) | 4. Q takes P—Mate

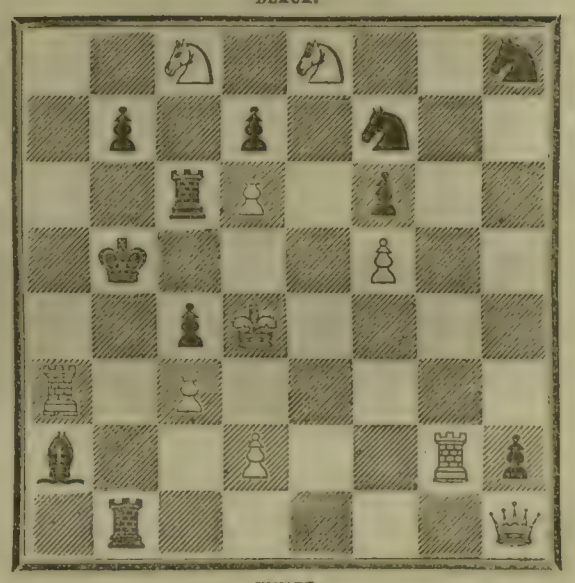
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 671.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt to K 5th (ch)	K to Q 4th (dis ch) (best)
2. Kt to Q B 7th (double ch)	K to Q 3rd
3. Q to Q B 5th (ch)	K takes Q
4. B to K 7th—Mate.	

PROBLEM No. 672.

By H. WHITTEN.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

Well-contested game in a match now pending between Mr. BIRD, an English amateur favourably known for the originality and vigour of his style, and the Austrian player FALKBEER.

(*French Opening.*)

WHITE (Mr. F.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)	WHITE (Mr. F.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 3rd	30. B to Q B 5th	Q R to Q Kt sq
2. P to Q 4th	P to Q 4th	31. B to K 3rd	P to K Kt 4th (*g*)
3. P takes P	P takes P	32. Q to K B 3rd	Q R to K sq
4. Q B to K 3rd (*a*)	K Kt to K B 3rd	33. P to K 6th	P takes P
5. P to Q B 4th	K B to Q Kt 5 (ch)	34. Q R takes P	Q to K B 2nd
6. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Castles	35. Q R tks Q R P (*h*)	K R to K B 3rd
7. Q to Q Kt 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	36. Q R takes K P	Q R takes R
8. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q B to K 3rd	37. P takes R	R takes Q
9. P to Q B 5th	R to Q Kt sq (*b*)	38. P takes Q (ch)	R takes K B P
10. K B to Q Kt (5th)	K B tks Q B P (*c*)	39. R to Q B 6th	P to K R 4th
11. Q to Q B 2nd (*d*)	K B to Q 3rd	40. R to K Kt 6 (ch) (*i*)	K to R 2nd
12. K B takes Kt	P takes B	41. R to Q B 6th	P to K R 5th
13. Castles K's side	Q B to K Kt 5th	42. B to Q 4th	K to Kt sq (*k*)
14. K Kt to K 5th	B takes Kt	43. P to Q R 4th	Kt to K Kt 6th
15. P takes B	K Kt to Q 2nd	44. B to K B 6th	Kt to K 5th (*l*)
16. P to K B 4th	Kt to Q Kt 3rd	45. B to K 5th	R to K B 4th
17. B to Q B 5th	K R to K sq	46. B takes Q B P	P to Q 5th
18. Q R to K sq	Q to Q 2nd	47. R to Q B 4th	R to Q 4th (*m*)
19. P to K R 3rd	B to K B 4th	48. K to B sq	Kt to Q 7 (ch) (*n*)
20. Q to K B 2nd	B to Q 6th	49. K to K 2nd	Kt takes R
21. Kt to K 2nd	Kt to Q R 5th	50. P takes Kt	R to Q B 4th
22. P to Q Kt 3rd	B takes Kt	51. B to Q 8th	R takes P
23. Q R takes B	Kt to Q B 6th	52. B takes P	R takes P
24. Q R to Q B 2nd	Kt to K 5th	53. K to Q 3rd	K to B 2nd
25. Q to K 3rd	P to Q R 3rd	54. B takes P	K to K 3rd
26. B to Q 4th	Q R to Q Kt 4th	55. B to K Kt 5th	K to Q 4th
27. K R to Q B sq	K R to K 3rd	56. P to K R 4th	R to Q R 6th (ch)
28. P to K B 5th (*e*)	K R to K R 3rd	57. K to K 2nd	K to K 5th
29. Q to K B 4th (*f*)	Q R to K Kt 5th	58. P to K R 5th	R to Q R 4th

And White surrendered.

(*a*) This move, intended to prevent the advance of the second player's Q B Pawn, has grown much into favour of late.
(*b*) Preparatory to a very good move which Black has in store.
(*c*) It was with the idea of taking this Pawn rather than of defending his own that Black played the Rook to Q Kt sq—a step of which Mr. Falkbeer failed to calculate all the contingencies.
(*d*) Taking the Bishop would have subjected him not only to the loss of a piece of equal value, but to a very dangerous attack.
(*e*) The game from this point appears to be much in White's favour; for those advanced Pawns, properly supported, must surely prove irresistible.
(*f*) Would not P to K Kt 4th have been stronger play?
(*g*) This looks desperately hazardous; but it turns the attack, and gives Black time to bring his Q Rook into action, and is thus far commendable; at the same time it weakens the position of his King, and involves the loss of a serviceable Pawn.
(*h*) P to K Kt 4th seems to us far preferable. In that case the Q R Pawn, or Q B Pawn, which was of more value, must have fallen next move.
(*i*) Sheer loss of time. By marching forward at once with the Q R P, he must have won the game.
(*k*) This is very well played. Had he moved the Kt to K Kt 6th first, White might have repulsed the attack by planting his Rook at K B 6th.
(*l*) But why this, when P to Q 5th wins without a shadow of question?
(*m*) After this White's game is hopeless, since he can only arrest the advance of the Queen's Pawn by some ruinous sacrifice.
(*n*) Would not P to Q 6th have been more expeditious, as well as artistic

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 1019.—By A. LULMAN.

White: K at K Kt 8th, R at K R 8th, B at K Kt 5th, Kt at K R 4th, Ps at K Kt 2nd and 3rd.
Black: K at K Kt 5th, Ps at K Kt 3rd and Q B 4th.
White to play and mate in four moves.

No. 1020.—By the Same.

White: K at K R 4th, R at K R sq, B at K B 2nd, Kts at K sq and Q 4th, Ps at K Kt 3rd and Q B 3rd.
Black: K at K B 8th, Kt at K Kt 8th; Ps at K R 6th and 7th, K Kt 5th, K B 6th, and K 7th.
White to play and mate in four moves.

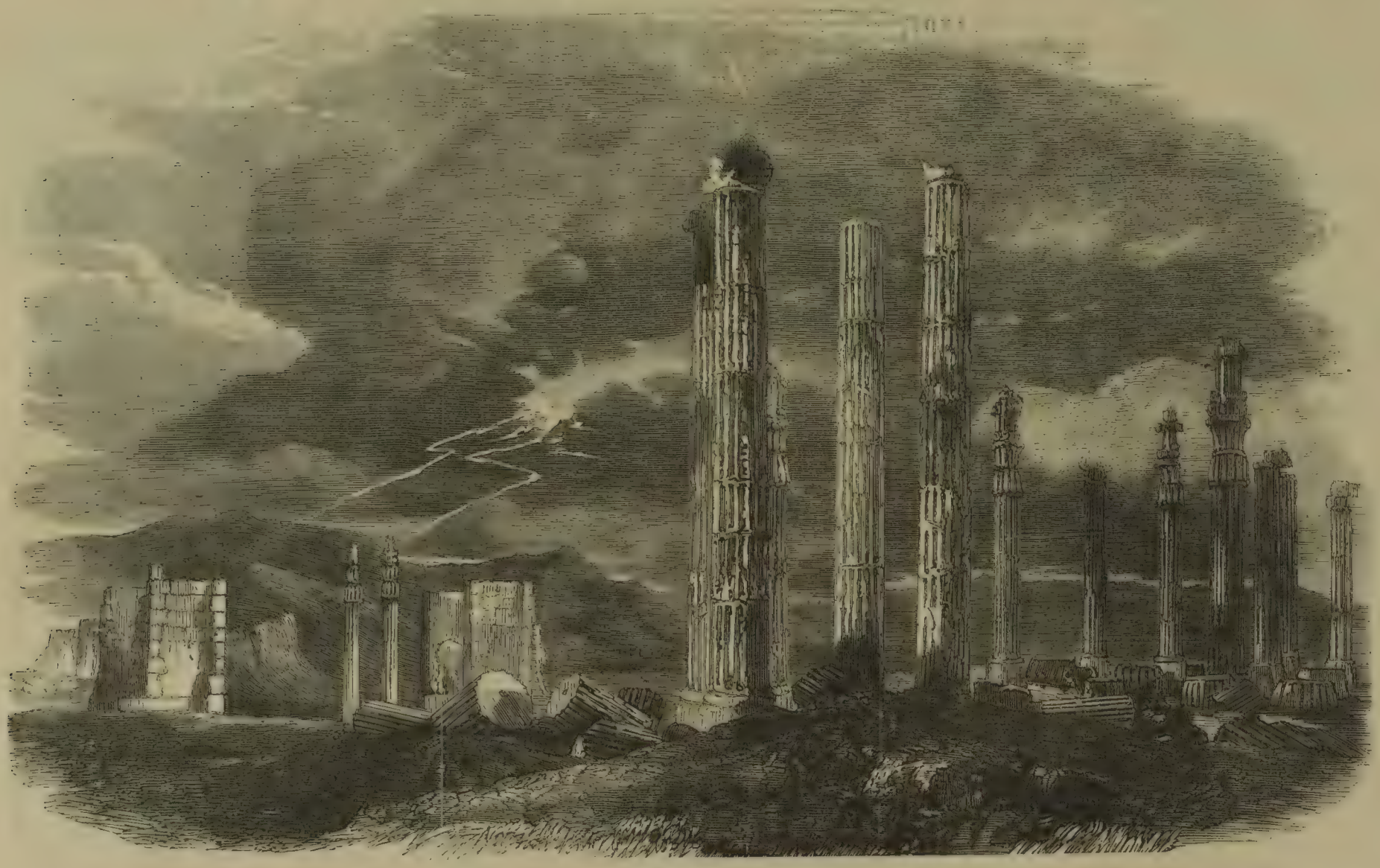
No. 1021.—By G. M. M.

(A corrected version of a Problem which appeared in this journal some years ago.)

White: K at Q R 8th, Q at Q B 2nd, B at Q B sq, Kt at K 5th, Ps at K 4th and Q B 3rd.
Black: K at his 2nd.
White to play and mate in three moves.

KANSAS PRISONERS.—A few nights since ten of the prisoners in Lecompton got their guard "a little elevated or inspired," and while in that state they passed through a hole in the floor and escaped, the guard unconscious of the fact. Not one has since been rearrested.—*New York Paper.*

SKETCHES IN PERSIA.



PERSEPOLIS.

THE readers of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS will remember that in 1843 the French Government sent an Embassy to Persia. M. Eugene Flandin, who was attached to the Embassy as artist, has become not only an artist but an historian, having written a very successful journal of the Expedition, "Travels in Persia." No man, perhaps, is better able to give us an insight into the present state of Persia than M. Flandin, who lived for some years in close intimacy with the Shah. We have selected from his numerous and valuable Illustrations of the antiquities and scenery of the country, the four accompanying views.

THE RUINS OF PERSEPOLIS, OR THE ROYAL CITY.

This name was formerly given to the whole capital of ancient Persia, but it is now confined to the group of ruins that represents the ancient palace of the Kings of Persia. The name now applied to that locality is Takht-i-Djemlhid (the throne of Djemlhid). It is also called Thehel Sutoun (the forty columns); but the number is strictly arbitrary. The huge gates thrown open and looking upon the desert, the lofty columns deprived of their capitals, the Royal halls whose only guests are the figures carved upon the walls, some maimed caryatides, are all that remain of the ancient city of Darius and Alexander.

THE SEPULCHRAL CAVES, &c.

The Persian dynasties covered all parts of their vast territory

SEPULCHRAL CAVES AND BAS-RELIEFS OF NAKCH-I-ROUSTAN.

SKETCHES IN PERSIA.

INNER COURT OF THE GRAND MOSQUE, AT ISPAHAN.

with plastic representations of their exploits. They chose the mountains for their record office, and the rocks for their books, upon which with the chisel had been written in bas-relief the history of the empire. These hard books, if such they may be called, have happily escaped the destructive fire of the Arabs. They were unable to remove those mountains, and it is to this circumstance that we are in part indebted for the sculptures: amongst others we may mention the representation of the hunting of the stag and the wild boar at Jaghi-Bestau, and the meeting of the Emperor Aurelian with Chapour, his conqueror, in the locality that bears the name of this King. At Persepolis, too, we see in a number of historical rocks a representation of the fatal night, when Alexander, intoxicated with love and wine, made of Persepolis a torch to light his orgies. This act, which somewhat tarnished his glory, has been of great service to the arts, for we owe to him the conservation of the rest of this monumental city. These ruins, uninhabited and uninhabitable, have been less exposed to the fury of the Arabs, and they owe their safety to their bleakness, while Darius, their master, derives his celebrity from his defeat.

THE GRAND MOSQUE AT ISPAHAN.

Ispahan is, no doubt, the largest city in the world, and the Persians have given to it the popular title of the half of the world. The most important monuments of Ispahan are the Mosques, which were commenced in the reign of Haroun-el-Redchid, who reigned at Bagdad in the thirteenth century. The handsomest of these buildings is situated in the "Place Royale." In front is a court in the regular form of a half pentagon. On one side of the court is an elegant gate of cypress-wood, supported by two minarets, which leads into the interior of the temple. In the centre of this interior court is a large basin, where the ablutions are made; and around are the school-rooms where the Mollahs teach their disciples. On another side is the sanctuary; at the bottom of which is seen the Mehrab, to which the Mahometans turn their heads when they pray. The Persians are indebted for this mosque to Shah Abbas, who expended nearly £1,000,000 sterling in building it—an enormous sum where the labour is paid at so low a rate as in Persia.

PERSIAN DIVAN.

The next Sketch which we present to our readers is that of the andéroum, where the Persian gentleman receives his guests and it may not be uninteresting to our readers to describe the peculiar pointed cap which he will see upon the heads of the Persian gentry. The cap is made of lamb's wool, the bottom descending down to the neck and the top inclining to a point. This coula, as it is called, is exactly the same shape for all classes; but it varies in price, according to the quality of the wool, and by the quality

DIVAN-I-KHANEH, AT TEHERAN.

of the cap the Persian will discover the rank of a person. To give the reader an idea of the value we may mention that they may be obtained at prices ranging from five or six sâberâns (five or six shillings) to ten or eleven toumâns (six or seven pounds). It is only since the establishment upon the throne of the Kadjars dynasty that the Persians have substituted the black pointed cap for the turban. The Mollahs and the Seids are now the only persons who wear the turban—the former white, and the latter of a blue or green colour.

Having already spoken of ancient Persia and its monuments, we will now say a word or two about the present Shah of Persia.

The Shah of Persia is a great patron of art, and owing to this circumstance Eugene Flandin has had the privilege of many private interviews with him. One day, when crossing the garden of the palace, the Shah, who was standing at a window, asked him if he had brought any drawings. M. Flandin produced his portfolio (which had been carried for him by an officer of the palace). The Shah beckoned a master of the ceremonies, who immediately introduced M. Flandin to the private apartments of the Shah, who was there waiting for him.

"After leaving my tabouches at the foot of the private staircase (says M. Flandin), I ascended to the private apartments of the Shah; there I found his Majesty sitting on the ground, according to the Oriental fashion, and reclining against one of the walls of the apartment.

"In front of him, at a short distance, there were two columns of alabaster beyond which the master of the ceremonies dared not go: he stopped at the columns and introduced me to the Shah, who graciously requested me to come close to him and show my drawings; he was very much interested in them all, and asked many questions concerning them, but he paid particular attention to all the sketches having any reference to military matters.

"Having taken sketches from every department of the army, I was enabled to produce before him drawings of the various costumes of the artillery, cavalry, infantry, and commissariat, and also sketches of guns, gun-carriages, and of his own patent gun-carriage: he asked many questions concerning the equipments of European armies, and evinced great knowledge of what was going on in Europe; he even descended to minute details, and asked many questions about helmets, cuirasses, belts, swords, boots, and spurs, and also was inquisitive about horses, saddles, bits, and bridles.

"Having my drawings spread out before him, he then compared the equipment of his own army with those of Europe, and after an interview of more than two hours' duration he dismissed me with many thanks, and requested me to forward to him copies of all my drawings, which I have subsequently done. Next day I left for Europe, greatly pleased with all I had seen and accomplished in Persia."

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

COMPOSITIONS OF WILHELM SCHULTHES.

SHE WALKS IN BEAUTY. Hebrew Melody, by Lord Byron.—MY PRETTY STEED (Mein Rösslein). Lied. English and German Words.—NEAR THE LIMPID FOUNTAIN'S EDGE. Duet of Mendelssohn, transcribed for the Pianoforte.—SCHNEEPERLEN (La Neige des Perles). Morceau de Salon, pour le Piano.—LOUISA. Notturno Cantabile, pour le Piano.—ROMANCE MUY DOLOROSO. Pour le Piano.—SONG OF THE HIGHLANDS. Berglied, for the Pianoforte.—SCANDINAVIAN SONG. For the Pianoforte.—Wessell and Co.

LA PENSEE. Morceau characteristique pour le Piano.—TRANSCRIPTION FANTASTIQUE. Pour le Piano, sur un air allemand populaire.—Schott and Co.

A CHILD AT PLAY. Song, written by J. G. Lyons, LL.D.—CANZONETTA. Pour le Piano.—DEUX PARAPHRASES FUGITIVES. Pour le Piano.—A STAR. Ballad, written by G. Gerard, Esq.—Sutton and Potter, Dover.

These numerous compositions have appeared through the medium of various publishers, almost simultaneously, or, at least, within a recent period. The name of M. Schulthes was previously unknown to us; and we presume that he is a young man recently come to England. We have examined all these pieces very carefully, and find that they well deserve the attention of the public; the composer being evidently an artist of uncommon genius and attainments. Not that they have given us unmingled satisfaction; they are very unequal in merit: some may be regarded as gems, particularly the "Deux Paraphrases Fugitives," and the "Canzonetta," which are clear, simple, and full of charming melody. But most of the other pianoforte pieces—though none of them are without beauties—are more or less deformed by the mannerisms and affectations of the modern German school, into which a young votary of that school is naturally apt to fall, but which time and experience, when he has true artistic feeling, will enable him to shake off. Mr. Schulthes is too fond of extreme keys, abrupt and startling modulations, enharmonic transitions, sky-rocket flights of execution, and notes split into strings of demisemiquavers and double demisemiquavers to show off the lightness of the performer's fingers. These things will be found most abundantly in the "Romance muy Doloroso;" the "Schneeperlen," or "Neige des Perles," (a title borrowed from Osborne's popular "Pluie des Perles;") and the "Transcription Fantastique," or variations on a German air. We never hear such music without thinking of the advices to composers given by the illustrious Piccini. "To modulate," he said, "is not difficult in itself; there is a routine for that as for other mechanical arts. This is proved by those enharmonic modulations which to the ignorant appear the height of science, but are really the sport of scholars. To create melody from a given modulation, to quit it only by the proper means, to return to it without harshness or insipidity, to make the change of modulation a just means of expression and of judicious variety—these are the real difficulties of the art. But to quit a key almost as soon as we have entered it, to be extravagant without reason or object, to proceed by skips and jumps merely for the sake of change; in short, to modulate for the sake of modulating, shows that the artist is ignorant of the principles and end of his art, and affects a superabundance of learning and imagination, in order to conceal the want of both the one and the other." Every composer should lay these admirable observations to heart; there are few composers of our day who would not profit by them.

M. Schulthe's vocal pieces are among the best specimens of the modern German style of song writing that we have lately met with. Almost the only fault with which they can be charged is one very excusable in a foreigner;—misplacing the accents of his English words, and placing his emphatic note on a mere conjunction or particle. Thus, we have "*She* walks in beauty," "Dreaming of structures tall and fair," &c. One of them—"A Star"—is free even from this fault, and is a perfect English ballad. Byron's poem, "She walks in beauty," is very beautifully set, bating the unmeaning enharmonic transition gratuitously introduced.

On the whole we attach much value to these compositions, not only as possessing many beauties, but as giving earnest of future efforts still more successful.

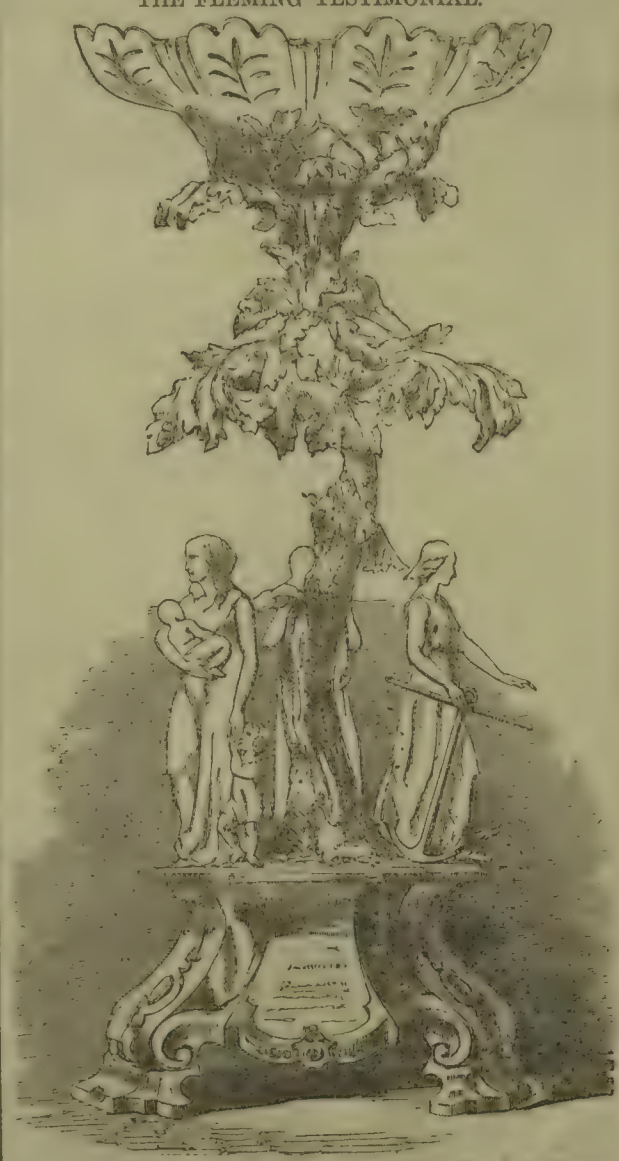
PART VIII. OF POPULAR MUSIC OF THE OLDEN TIME. A Collection of Ancient English Songs and Ballads. By W. CHAPPELL, F.S.A. Harmonised by G. A. MACFARREN.

The present number brings this interesting work to the close of its first volume, with the completion of the reigns of James and Charles I. As might be expected the tunes become more numerous in each successive period; and, although there are many of great beauty among the earliest, their average merit certainly increases with the advance of the time. "Thomas, you cannot," with which this part opens, is one of very quaint and striking humour. "When Daphne did from Phœbus fly," is a pretty ballad on the mythological story of Daphne turned into a bay-tree (never before reprinted), and with a graceful and plaintively-expressive tune. "O come you from Newcastle?" is a singularly beautiful melody, stamped with nationality, and of such excellence as must be universally appreciated. "The Noble Shirve" is a characteristic old strain, with a burden to which, with all his researches, Mr. Chappell has not been able to trace the original words. This may be a matter of regret to the antiquary since the ballad, whatever it may be, would probably afford some interesting illustration of the unusual contraction of the title of county dignity "Shire Reeve" or "Sheriff," and would appear to be of very early date. "The buff-coat has no fellow" is an excellent example of the rough and jovial character of the cavalier soldier—bold, energetic, and animated. "A Hunting we will go," illustrates another phase of the English character which has much declined, and may soon fade away, as so many have already; possibly, to the improvement of our intellectual faculties—but, as tending to lesson our nationality, it is nevertheless matter of regret. The famous old ballad of "King John and the Abbot of Canterbury," the legend of which reappears in Bürger's popular poem "Der Kaiser und der Abt," is to be traced from country to country, from tradition to tradition, until it loses itself like the mighty water, in which stood the rock, on which rested the tortoise, on which stood the elephant that bore the world we inhabit. In the impenetrable mystery of Oriental origin this famous ballad, with its tune, and with the more modern version of the same, under the name of "A Cobbler there was, who lived in a stall," will interest everybody. Two eminently characteristic tunes to the homely ditty of "Tom Tinker 's my true love, and I am his dear," are indigenously English, but of another stamp. Sir John Suckling's exquisite ballad "I'll tell thee, Dick," describing a wedding at Charing-cross, which has been incessantly quoted, and will be as ceaselessly admired, receives no little additional interest from being presented to us with its original tune; and its speedy popularity is proved by the satires on Sir John's troop of horse, (that ran away in the Civil Wars) being sung to the same air. "Cupid's Courtesy" is a charming melody, and "Remember, O thou man," a good old characteristic Christmas carol. It is curious to discover here, under the name of "The Country Lass," the tune now known as "Sally in our Ally," and which is certainly not the one that Carey himself wrote to his popular relation of the apprentice's love; but, meritorious as that is, this has entirely superseded it in association with Carey's words, and our surprise is, as it will probably be of many others, that it should pertain to a ballad written by Martin Parker, the most famous ballad-writer of the reigns of James and Charles I. "Fair Margaret and Sweet William," or Margaret's Ghost," closes the volume, and it is scarcely surpassed by any in the collection for melodious fluency and pathetic expression.

These tunes we have cited as the most conspicuous, and many others of merit only inferior to these, and of which the historical interest is in some instances even greater, make up the number before us, and tend fully to confirm the proposition which Mr. Chappell's work is designed to prove, namely—that the English are intrinsically a music-making and a music-enjoying people; that with them have originated many of the best national tunes the world has ever had; and that the times have been when they as a mass have heartily relished to sing and to listen to them. Possibly, if these truly national songs could resume their popularity, and become again familiar to everybody's ears and fingers, they might regenerate the love of what is English because it is English, that so strongly characterised our ancestors, and displace the sickly distaste for home produce that is the stigma upon modern times. If so, futurity will owe a national debt to the industrious editor who has brought all these interesting relics to light; if not, we shall still have to thank him for having made us acquainted with an immense accumulation of charming tunes, which, whether as old or new, as English or exotic, no one can hear without delight.

The airs are simply yet beautifully arranged by Mr. Macfarren.

THE FLEMING TESTIMONIAL.



THIS elegant piece of plate has been presented to the Rev. Francis Fleming, M.A., F. R. G. S., late Military Chaplain of Kaffraria, Cape of Good Hope, by the inhabitants of King William's Town, on the occasion of his leaving South Africa.

Mr. Fleming was Chaplain at King William's Town for several years, and during the late Kaffir war. Whilst there, in addition to his military duties, he was enabled to minister to the wants of the inhabitants of the town and district generally, and was mainly instrumental in assisting to erect in that place the first church in Kaffirland; besides forming schools and carrying out other objects beneficial to the community. He is also the author of two works descriptive of Kaffraria and Southern Africa.

At the expiration of the war, having been removed to Mauritius, he was, on the occasion of his departure, presented with an address, signed by the inhabitants of Kaffraria, including those of all religious denominations: and to this mark of their esteem and respect has been added the piece of plate in our Engraving.

The Testimonial is a silver épergne: the three figures, emblematical of Faith, Hope, and Charity, stand on a triangular pedestal, and group around an oak-tree; the branches of which, whilst shading them, support a bowl of African flowers. On the sides of the pedestal are engraved Mr. Fleming's armorial bearings, crest, and initials, together with the inscription. The design and workmanship are highly creditable to the manufacturers, Messrs. Widdowson and Veale, of the Strand.

Mr. Fleming, having resigned his Chaplaincies abroad, is at present one of the Secretaries of the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

The following is the inscription:—

Presented to the Rev. F. P. FLEMING, M.A., by the inhabitants of King William's Town, British Kaffraria, South Africa, as a small token of their affectionate regard and deep regret at his departure after four years of unremitting labour for their spiritual and temporal benefit. December 26, 1853.

ANSWERS TO THE ACROSTIC-CHARADES IN OUR CHRISTMAS SUPPLEMENT. Vol. XXIX. p 624.

No. I.

THE LETTERS.

The *CabineT* yet regulates our fate,
And *HarroW's* fame for learning still is great;
The *RoE* may well be thought a very deer,
But cannot be *IdeaL* called, I fear.
No matter, take your *SnufF*, and have your sneeze;
A *TippeT's* no cold comfort when you freeze.
Without "air," Mohair will be *MoH*, I've found;
AssyriaN marbles were late underground;
Still, *SerI* will be left when "al" is gone;
A *DruG's* a draught you'd better let alone.
AH! may, no doubt, be styled a painful wailing,
And *YachT*, a pleasure-boat to go out sailing.

THE WORDS.

So CHRISTMAS DAY yet brings to men good will,
Let TWELFTH NIGHT characters be "what you will."

E. D. C., Brook-street, Grosvenor-square.

No. II.

THE LETTERS.

Turks in the *HareM* cage the blushing bride;
The Negro worships *ObI* deified;
"Health to the *LadieS*," cries the jovial host;
LenT makes the friar like a whipping-post;
The British *YelL* the Russians terrified;
Put out to sea, when falls the ebbing *TidE*.
Who has the Chartist *RioT* yet forgot?
EchO repeats sweet sounds in every grot.
The *EyE*—the noblest blessing from above—
Can best reveal hope, anger, fear, or love.

THE WORDS.

The holly decks the sacred shrine,
The holly decks the hall;
The HOLLY-TREE, at Christmas time
Brings happiness to all.
The laurel-wreath bestows renown,
The MISTLETOE a kiss;—
Tell me, ye gallants—tell me all—
Is that the best, or this?

KETSROFF.

No. III.

THE LETTERS.

The *SuburB* guards the city's outer wall;
Great *KepleR* watch'd the planets rise and fall;
The virtuous *UnA* loved her valiant knight;
And *LevI* is the hapless Israelite:
May England's *LioN* shine in every fight.

THE WORDS.

The SKULL, which Byron beautifully calls
"The dome of thought, the palace of the soul,"
Protects the tender BRAIN within its walls,
And lets the lofty head uplift the whole.

F. G., Eaton Square.

No. IV.

THE LETTERS.

'Twas *CranmeR* earn'd a martyr's fame,
RivolI gave a warrior name.
Of *OrloV*, now, no 'count is made,
*CelestE*al peace has sheath'd each blade;
Content and *OrdeR* reign around,
Though Austria's *DungeoN* taints the ground.
IsenI's Queen was fair and brave;
For *L. E. L.* a place I crave.
If much you plague a woman's brain,
In taunting *EvE*, you may "raise Cain!"

THE WORDS.

When bathing in the RIVER NILE,
Beware the treach'rous CROCODILE.

LOUISA.

No. V.

THE LETTERS.

In vain my pen a *SonneT* would indite—
Poor, poor *InterpreteR* of living thought!
The Muse me no *DiplomA* gave to write;
My verses were a *DruG* that no one bought.
I tried an *OdE*, but that did not succeed.
Why write, then? ask you. Friends, I am in *NeeD*—
I want a patron on my book to set
The *StrawberrY* leaves of his proud coronet.

THE WORDS.

SIDDONS! unrivall'd Queen of TRAGEDY!
You and your forte in this Charade I spy.

E. D. C.

No. VI.

THE LETTERS.

A little girl stood playing with her *DolL*;
Her brother with a toy-made *UnI*-corn;
A butcher with a tray of *BeeF* did loll,
Reading a well-thumb'd *LeaF*, both soil'd and worn.
When, horror-struck, he rous'd with sudden *IrE*,
To see a *NavY* mid., in gay attire.

THE WORDS.

A DUBLIN swell, who, in a jiffy,
Threw the poor children in the LIFFEY.

AUGUSTA.

No. VII.

THE LETTERS AND WORDS (LAVA—ETNA).

Life ere I *losE*, this riddle I'll unfold,
A down the street the *acrobaT* behold;
Van Amburgh's *vaN* his 'vantage-ground surprises,
A while an *ariA* from an area rises.

E. D. C, Brook-street, Grosvenor-square.

No. VIII.

THE LETTERS.

What poignant *GrieF* did wring the heart of Eve
When *AbeL* fell!
Just so did *RollO's* comrades sadly grieve
At his death knell.
And, thus, thy aged eyes grief's *DeW* distill'd,
The heart to *EasE*,
Sage *NestoR!* when the haughty Hector kill'd
The pride of Greece.

THE WORDS.

So, doth the maiden mourn, with gentle grief,
In GARDEN gay.
The lovely FLOWER that droops its pearly leaf,
And fades away.

AUGUSTA.

No. IX.

THE LETTERS.

Hermione was sad. The reason why?
No "one" was there—so, she became *HermI!*
In Lapland's snowy clime well prized is *OiL!*
And *MacaroniI* makes the pot to boil:
AlE's sold in pots—'tis excellent with chops,
And, like a *rod*, accustoms one to hops.

THE WORDS.

Now, from th' initials, classics most sublime!
See HOMER spring—the bard who laughs at time.
And, from the finals—Mem'ry makes me sad,
Though I've recover'd now—the ill I had (ILIAD).

HIBERNICUS.

Answers by the following Correspondents are correct—G. K., Toby, Wimborne Minster, Trio, Martin Schlesinger (Zurich), E. C., Aunt Mary, W. M. A., Oxon, Enigma, P. P. P., H. S., H. P., Moses, H. M. R., E. M. W., J. S. (Bruges), Œd pus, Eleanor, E. B. H., Prester John, L. T., Excelsior, J. P. C., E. G., Leeds, S. A.

Answers by the following are correct except in a few words—H. M. and C. (Cheshunt College), E. T., M. W. H. B., Cafariello, F. L. R. and M. E. R., H. E. F. T. (St. John's Coll., Cam.), F. G. (Eaton-square), Sphinx, Geo. Nevile, R. T. P., F. Picard, W. B., E. B. D., R. H. Lipscomb, W. F. S, Gemini, Patty Honeywood, X. Y. Z., Oberon, W. H. P., Scotus, Emily, C. B., Nemo, Council of Four, S. H., F. S. A., Janet, Q in the Corner, T. L. O., J. W., H. M., Halifax, A Student, H. C. N., Clover, Billy, W. F.

Other answers are incorrect.

BOOKS FOR PRESENTS.*

"Clover Cottage" is a lively story touching a widow and a bachelor. The latter has become proprietor of "a jewel of a cottage, embosomed in a wood abounding with game, on the banks of a stream swarming with trout and salmon." He is naturally impatient to enter upon possession, but the tenant happens to be a widow—young, beautiful, and not deficient in stratagem. The various steps by which Mr. Solomon Windfall endeavours to obtain possession of his cottage, and the clever style in which Mrs. Wily circumvents him, give excellent scope for a good deal of smart dialogue, and two or three very effective scenes; the upshot being an amicable arrangement of the most satisfactory nature for both parties.

Mr. H. F. Chorley, to whom the English reader is indebted for a pleasant volume of tales from the French, entitled "Fairy Gold," had his attention called to them by a letter from Beranger to Lapointe, the author, in which the venerable poet says:—"I have finished reading your tales, and am as thoroughly enchanted as any small child to whom, for the first time, some one has told the story of Tom Thumb. * * * I expect a second volume with impatience. Be quick over it. I am seventy-three; and children of my age have not the time to wait." The stories, which are full of exquisite fancy, of quaint humour and gentle wisdom, deserve to take their place beside those of Hans Andersen and Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Those who have read "A Boy's Voyages on board a Man-of-War and in the Merchant Service" do not require to be told what excellent stories of spirit-stirring adventure they will find in a new volume by the same author. Books of this description are generally supposed to be dangerous reading for boys, from their tendency to inspire a hankering after the life of a sailor. The author of "Whaling and Fishing" is not likely to do much harm in that way. Deeply interesting as the story is, there is not much in the scenes and incidents he describes that is calculated to make any one in love with life on board a whaler.

A certain love passage in the life of Jessie Cameron is the leading feature in a beautiful Highland story under that title, which frequently reminds us of Christopher North, in its charming simplicity and pathos. A Mr. Allister Stuart, assistant to the *grieve*, or land steward, on a Highland estate, falls in love with Jessie, who is the daughter of a widow in humble circumstances. For a while the course of true love runs as smooth as the most romantic novel-reader could desire. Allister proposes in due form, and is accepted. A new house is to be built for him and his intended wife, as he tells her; and she is left to receive the congratulations of friends and neighbours while he leaves the Highland glen for Ayrshire on his master's business. Unfortunately for poor Jessie her betrothed is not a true man. During his visit to Ayrshire he becomes acquainted with "a very smart young lady, who had been educated at Miss M'Kissock's boarding-school in Ayr. She had a quantity of fair ringlets, a pink-and-white face, a stylish sort of figure, and dressed to the best of her ability according in the fashions in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS." Of course, the Lowland belle, with a fortune of £300, soon makes him forget the tocherless Highland maiden, whom he deserts in a very heartless manner. A number of episodes are interwoven with the main story, forming altogether a very truthful picture of Highland life as it transacts itself "in huts where poor men lie."

The story of "The Ocean Child" opens in the drawing-room of a pretty cottage on the Undercliff, in the Isle of Wight. A small family party, sitting round the comfortable fireside, with shutters closed and curtains drawn, is listening to the growling of a storm out of doors, and speculating on the dangers of the sea, when a signal gun is heard. A shipwreck takes places in the immediate neighbourhood, and the only person saved is a little girl—the ocean child—who is adopted by Mrs. Howard, the tenant of the pretty cottage on the Undercliff. This mysterious infant is full of warm affection; but is afflicted with an ungovernable temper, which renders her childhood and early youth a chequered scene of showers and sunshine. At last, however, after many failures, she becomes mistress of herself, and the discovery is afterwards made that she is the daughter of Mrs. Howard's brother, who had been drowned in his attempt to reach the land on the night when the ocean child was saved.

The object which the author of "Our Eastern Empire" had in view, in compiling a very excellent juvenile book, was to inspire children with an interest in the history of British India. For this purpose she has brought together from the works of Mill and Thornton, the Essays of Macaulay, and other sources, some of the most striking incidents of the story of our Indian Empire. These are told in an easy and natural way as part of the ordinary conversation in a well-educated family.

No writer of the present day is better known, or more generally liked, among the rising generation, than Captain Mayne Reid. His books of adventure are admirably adapted for youthful readers, and we have no doubt that "The Young Yägers," his contribution to the Christmas library for 1856, will make his name still more widely known than it has been hitherto. Those who have read "The Bush Boys," will be glad to renew their acquaintance with Hans, Hendrick, and Jan von Bloom, in the present story. They are now two or three years older than when they made their first appearance, but are still as fond of sport as ever, as may be guessed from the fact that the story opens on the southern bank of the Great Orange River, where the three "Boys" have encamped, along with some new acquaintances, who have joined them on a hunting expedition. The adventures with lions and lionesses, the "hairbreadth 'scapes," and startling incidents, with which the book is crowded, must make it a universal favourite.

Nothing interests young readers so much as stories of life at school. Of all Miss Martineau's tales, for example, we would back her "Crofton Boys" against all the rest she ever wrote, in the estimation of any jury composed of young persons. We do not say that "Sidney Grey" is equal to that charming narrative of youthful cares and troubles, but it will most assuredly take a place beside it in many a juvenile library. The story of the £5 note, which was stolen by one boy, who succeeded in fastening the charge of theft upon Sidney, the pattern scholar, is well carried through, to the final scene, where true poetical justice is rendered to all parties.

"Julia Maitland" is the story of an orphan girl, dependent upon a wealthy aunt, who, having had her head filled with great expectations, has very naturally become idle, proud, and vain. A series of reverses, however, throw her upon the world at the age of seventeen, with very little power to fight the hard battle of life; and, after a wholesome course of mortification as governess and useful companion, she acquires sounder notions of duty, and in the last chapter of a pleasant juvenile story she is represented as a very successful schoolmistress, "never tired of relating her adventures and the troubles into which she had been led by her idleness and her false notions of gentility."

Two heroines—Beatrice Courtenay, the daughter of an Italian lady and an English gentleman, who gambled away his fortune at Baden-Baden; and Judith Maxwell, the only daughter of a long-headed Scotch steward, who worms himself into the possession of his employer's estate and castle—are symbolised in a two-volume narrative, as the "Myrtle and the Heather." Beatrice is a paragon of beauty, and sings like an angel. By going on the stage she might easily have earned a fortune and a name. But a promise to her dying father that she would never adopt that profession, forbids her acceptance of the flattering offers made by enterprising managers. After a course of probation, in which she suffers much from the selfish caprice of a Lady St. Helens, who patronises her for a while and then quarrels with her for not being sufficiently compliant, Beatrice becomes the wife of Horace Lindsay, the nephew and heir of Sir Roderick Lindsay, whose steward is the father of Judith Maxwell, the Highland heroine of the story. The part played by the latter in the complicated drama is a very noble one, but it would require more space than we can afford to give even an outline of it. The story is well told, although not of that class of novels which we would recommend to the lovers of the "fast" school of fiction.

"The Good Old Times," by the author of "Mary Powell," is not a story for the million; indeed, the writer never addresses herself to ordinary readers, nor would she succeed, probably, if she made the attempt. But it has qualities which will ensure its success among all who can enjoy a simple and truthful picture of ordinary life. What admirable skill the writer displays in her brief sketch of the merry party, seated round the blazing fire in Mère Susanne's kitchen, roasting chestnuts and breaking hearts! For, as the Scottish poet sings—

Love may lowe in cottage low
As well 's in lofty ha'.

The story, which is of rather a slight texture, relates chiefly to the indefatigable efforts of the Reformers in Auvergne to spread the new doctrines among the peasantry, and of the no less unwearied attempts of the ecclesiastical power to put down the heretical insurrection against authority.

The author of "Florence Templar; or, My Aunt's Story" has adopted the autobiographic form. The narrative has not much of plot or incident, but there is story enough to carry the reader pleasantly on from the first chapter to the last page without pause or weariness. Florence Templar, with whom the narrator becomes acquainted at an early stage of her history, is a great beauty and an heiress. She is surrounded by crowds of admirers, but only two are specially introduced—Mr. Graham, the member for Templar Cross; and Captain Sutton, who happens to be "my aunt's cousin." The latter is evidently the favourite in the estimation of the story-teller; indeed, he must have been incomparably superior to his rival in personal attraction. But Mr. Graham, who had recently returned from India with a large fortune, and who seems to have understood how to win a lady's favour, soon distances the poor captain. The latter is in despair, although not on his own account, as he tries to persuade himself. He cannot bear the thought that Florence is about to become the wife of a scoundrel, and therefore he seeks an interview, in which he tries to open her eyes to the true character of the nabob. Here the author introduces an incident which we cannot remember ever having met before in any novel—English, French, German, or American. Captain Sutton, it appears, had been attacked with small-pox at the very moment when he went to see Florence. she is struck with the same frightful malady, and, after an alarming illness, the proud beauty rises from a bed of sickness so changed in appearance as to wish herself dead. Of course she is deserted by Mr. Graham, who is a devoted worshipper of beauty; leaving the course open to Captain Sutton, if he had chosen to return. But he had gone to sea while these events were happening, and does not return till she is almost at the verge of the grave, having been cruelly used by the nabob, who runs away with her brother's wife, and thus justifies the warning which Sutton gave as to his character. The story, which is told in a quiet graphic style, ends happily, in spite of the various troubles by which the *dénouement* is preceded.

With the exception of Captain Marryat, we know of no English author who will compare with Mr. Kingston as a writer of books of nautical adventure. To those who have already become familiar with his former stories, it will be enough to say that "Neil D'Arcy" his last novel shows no falling off in the lively, delightful, vein of its author.

"Curiosities of History" is a sort of holiday book, illustrating not a few of the uses of schooldom, in explaining the every-day applications of classic lore and historic incident, so often employed by public writers of the present day in newspapers and elsewhere. Thus, it is worth knowing that Athens had her "Wooden Wall" as well as England;" and Rome her "Cap of Liberty" as well as John Wilkes: whence come the phrases of Passing the Rubicon; Cleansing the Augean Stable; and being like Argus, with his Hundred Eyes; what is Breaking Priscian's Head; and what were the Pillars of Hercules, and the Greek Kalends; the Brazen Bull of Phalaris, the Iron Cage of Tamerlane, the Sword of Damocles, and the Ear of Dionysius; why Alcibiades cut off his dog's tail; how Dido founded Carthage, and Hannibal cut through the Alps with vinegar; and who and what were the Seven Wise Men of Greece, the Seven Hills of Rome, and the Seven Ages of Man; the Laws of Solon and Draco, Justinian and Napoleon I.; who built Baalbec? where was Homer born? was Belisarius blind? and who was the Man in the Iron Mask? In our own history is an abundant crop of errors, doubts, and romantic perversions and phrases, which have passed from the lips of kings, heroes, and statesmen into the every-day parlance of the people. Such are a few of the "Curiosities" which are packed into this little book, under some 500 heads, including ten times as many events, incidents, sayings and origins, and noteworthy instances of human action. The book is an extension of the plan of the author's volume of "Things Not Generally Known," to the popular illustration of the most interesting points of history.

* "Clover Cottage; or, I Can't Get In"—a Nouvelette. By the Author of "The Falcon Family," "My Uncle the Curate," &c. Chapman and Hall.
"Fairy Gold for Young and Old, in Eighteen Tales." From the French of Savinien Lapointe. Routledge and Co.
"Whaling and Fishing." The Sequel to the "Boy's Voyages." Addey and Co.
"Jessie Cameron." A Highland Story. By the Lady Rachel Butler. Edinburgh: Blackwood and Son.
"The Ocean Child; or Showers of Sunshine." By Harriet Myrtle. Addey and Co.
"Our Eastern Empire; or, Stories from the History of British India." Griffith and Farran.
"The Young Jägers; or, a Narrative of Hunting Adventures in Southern Africa." By Captain Mayne Reid. Bogue.
"Sydney Grey; a Tale of School Life." By the Author of "Mia and Charlie." Bogue.
"Jessie Maitland; or, Pride Goes Before a Fall." By Mary Elizabeth Kirby. Griffith and Farran.
"The Myrtle and the Heather." A Tale. By A. M. Goodrich, Author of "Gwen," "Claudia," &c. J. W. Parker and Son.
"The Good Old Times." A Tale of Auvergne. By the Author of "Mary Powell." &c. Hall, Virtue, and Co.
"Florence Templar; or, My Aunt's Story." Smith, Elder, and Co.
"Curiosities of History. With New Lights. A Book for Old and Young." By John Timbs, F.S.A. Bogue.

OMNIBUS TRAMWAYS.—The Passy omnibuses start from the Place de la Concorde for Passy (and *vice versâ*) every half hour. As there is only one line of rails laid down along the public road (and sunk into it so as to allow of other carriages driving over it), it is so arranged that the omnibus each way does not start until its consort has arrived. They stop once or twice to take up and set down passengers, and at these stopping-places double lines are laid down for a few yards, so as to admit of two carriages passing each other if it should be at any time necessary; but these precautions seem superfluous, as the carriage itself can be drawn for a short distance on the ordinary road should it be requisite. The rail omnibuses are extremely large, comfortable, and roomy—having the appearance of two or three railway carriages joined together. Each contains (inside and outside) sixty-one passengers; they are always full, and in fine weather overflowing; their great advantage being that the motion is as easy as that of a first-class railway carriage, and that, although only drawn by one pair of stout horses, they perform in less than ten minutes a distance which in a common road omnibus requires a long half-hour of fatiguing jolting. The establishment of such a mode of communication would be the greatest boon to the inhabitants of Kensington, Bayswater, and many other places similarly situated.

GREAT STORM IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE.—The *Messager de Bayonne* of the 31st ult. states that that part of the country had been visited by a violent storm, which continued three days. During the whole time the thunder scarcely ceased roaring. A number of the streams of water in the neighbourhood overflowed their banks, in consequence of the heavy rain, but it was hoped that the mischief done would not be very considerable. Several accidents were caused by the lightning, the most serious being at Villefranque, where a Custom-house officer was killed while writing at his desk. At Hasparren the electric fluid entered a room where six persons were sitting round the fireplace. Three of them were struck by it—one of them, an old woman, having her hair burnt, and a severe wound inflicted on her head. At Bayonne, notwithstanding that precaution had been taken to place the electric apparatus in communication with the ground, so great was the influence of the fluid that the telegraph-office was filled with sparks, and part of the apparatus melted. At Lyons, on New Year's Day, the snow was so deep in the streets that they were almost impassable for pedestrians.

THE CUBAN SLAVE TRADE.—We have been informed by a person who is attached to the schooner *Emily* now in this port, from the Grand Caymanas, that an American brigantine named *Nehemiah Hans* arrived at that island about a month ago, after having landed 584 slaves in Cuba. She bought at the Caymanas 170 tons of guano at 10 dollars per ton, and employed eleven men at the rate of 50 dollars per month for the chief mate, 30 dollars each for the second mate and boatswain, and 25 dollars each for common seamen. It was evident that the *Nehemiah Hans* was about returning to the coast of Africa for another cargo of human beings, as the captain purchased a large quantity of provisions, poultry, &c., &c., and a lot of turtle. Truly, the slave-traders are becoming more and more emboldened, when they fearlessly enter a British port, and employ British subjects to assist them. We trust, therefore, that the authorities at head-quarters in Spanish Town will adopt measures that will in future render nugatory any further attempt to hire seamen at the Caymanas for the prosecution of the infamous traffic.—*Falmouth* (Jamaica) *Post, Dec. 9.*

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF MODERN FLEMISH PICTURES.

THE success of the French Exhibition in Pall-mall has led to a similar one of pictures by living Belgian artists, well worth a visit at this season of the year, when the Royal Academy and other native exhibitions are in abeyance. And this exposition is the more creditable, inasmuch as Wappers, Gallait, Thomas, de Keyser, and Verboeckhoven do not exhibit on this occasion.

Ferdinand de Brackeleer has two pictures, Nos. 7 and 8—the former "The Wandering Minstrel," the latter "The Proposal." This artist resembles our own Faed in the pleasing, familiar, and natural treatment of peasant life: the colour and chiaroscuro are very fine, but his touch is disagreeably wanting in breadth and vigour, so as to be what the French critics call *léché!* In expression he attempts nothing bold or eccentric; but, within the limited range that he has marked out for himself, excluding all strength of passion and emotion, he is perfectly natural, and therefore pleasing.

No. 89. "A Poor Woman Arrested as a Vagabond," by Alfred Stevens. This is a very striking picture, the colouring very cold but forcible, the action pathetic but in no way exaggerated. The principal figure is, of course, the poor woman, with two wretched children, conducted by gens d'armes to a *dépôt de mendicité*. The picture has no background to interfere with the action, being a simple wall capped with snow; but we think it a mistake on the part of the artist that the sympathies of the spectator and the observance of the law are in collision.

No. 91. "Old Flemish House," Francois de Stroobant.—This is an interesting piece of architecture of the Spanish period. The locality is, we believe, Mechlin. In no part of Europe was the passage from Pointed Gothic to the Renaissance signalised by a more luxuriant fancy than in Belgium, being coincident with the commercial wealth of the country immediately before the rise of the Dutch Republic. Mr. Stroobant is highly successful in such efforts, making a felicitous selection, and executing with truth and vigour of handling.

No. 62. "Landscape with Cattle," by Adolph de Knyff.—The character of the landscape is essentially Flemish, the high trees: the absence of leafy underwood, the pastures, and the luxuriant aquatic vegetation, are faithful transcripts of the features of the Campine, but without anything like the vapid pea-green monotony usual in such subjects.

Nos. 103 and 104. "The Fruit Market" and the "Poultry Market," by Van Schendel, showing great mechanical ingenuity in the management of candlelight and moonlight effects. This class of pictures was much overrated a generation ago; but now they are visited with, we think, too unmeasured contempt. There is always a large class of persons to whom the literal imitation of a curious foreign scene will always give pleasure.

No. 10. "The Lake of the Four Cantons, Switzerland," is a landscape in which the aspects of the Alps and their vegetation are treated with a high degree of truth and beauty. M. Calame is a Swiss artist, famous for his delineations of pine foliage.

No. 15, "A Coast Scene," by Clays; and No. 18, "Arabs," by Joseph Coomaus, are also by artists of high repute both in Paris and Brussels.

MALTA: ITS TOWN BUILDINGS AND FORTIFICATIONS.

WE have recently seen a series of Views of the above stronghold and Queen of the Mediterranean, executed by Mr. Robertson, of the Imperial Mint of Constantinople, whose name is so well known in connection with Eastern photography.

It is sufficient to say that these views fully maintain the well-merited reputation this gentleman has acquired by his former works; lacking the thrilling interest of his Crimean productions, they have still a deep and serious importance, showing as they do so truthfully the full extent and impregnable character of this our watchtower in Eastern Europe.

Considered as photographs, these views appear to be nearly all of equal merit; but there are some which, taken as subjects, are naturally more interesting than others. Among these we would particularise the Porta Reale, three views of the fortifications which are marvels of strength and solidity, the Auberge de Castile, and a portrait, if we may use the expression, of that magnificent line-of-battle ship the *Duke of Wellington*, as she lay in Malta harbour.

Our readers will be glad to hear that Mr. Robertson is about to supply a want which has long been felt by all classes, but more especially by those of the religious world; and proposes illustrating immediately, in a series of photographic views, Jerusalem and the Holy Places.

We look forward with much pleasure to the opportunity which will be given us by this truthful art to trace step by step the progress of Our Lord during his earthly pilgrimage; and wish Mr. Robertson every success in this most interesting and important undertaking.

THE NEW PHOTO-GALVONOGRAPHIC PROCESS.

THE discovery of the Daguerréotype opened up an entirely new field of science and art;—its importance having been since shown, not so much by the first products of Daguerre's discovery, remarkable as they were, as by subsequent ramifications, the terminations of which we cannot as yet even divine. Of photography alone we may say that, in relation to the daguerréotype, the daughter is fairer than the mother. The discovery we describe may be called another of this progeny, perhaps still more wonderful. Thus a truly great idea propagates itself. A new principle once arrived at, the fresh-springing genius of the succeeding generation never rests in the attempt at novel application and novel combination. Chemistry created a new art, and art in her turn goes the round of the cognate sciences to accomplish her purpose and abridge her processes.

The photograph turns the sun into a painter; the above process supervenes, and turns voltaic electricity into an engraver on copper, by one of the most curious inventions of the age. The Photo-Galvanographic process of engraving is capable of producing printing-plates giving every detail of nature as found in the photograph, or of rendering touch for touch the drawing or painting of the artist and draughtsman. A few weeks are sufficient for the production of finished plates, some of which—as, for example, those from photographic originals—the human hand could never engrave, or, if imitated by manual engraving, would require years of unremitting labour. In the primary steps of the Photo-Galvanographic process the operator coats a glass plate with a gelatinous solution suitably prepared with chemical ingredients sensitive to light; the plate so coated is exposed to the light in contact with the print or drawing to be copied. This relievo plate is then moulded, and the mould placed in the electrotype battery, producing a thin raised copperplate called the matrix, which serves for obtaining finally by electrotype the intaglio printing-plate.

The ordinary photograph on fine and expensive paper especially prepared is the basis of the operation, and the sum of the five processes, including the double electrotype, is to present a reversed plate, a disadvantage which will, no doubt, be got over by some ingenuity. The most beautiful specimen we have seen is a "Don Quixote in his Study," composed and photographed from the life by Mr. Lake Price, whose name is well known as that of a most dexterous and scientific photographer, for, although the sun is the great parent of this progeny, there are skilful and unskilful midwives in the process of delivery. The proof has all the truth of photography, and all the delicacy of mezzotint—minus, of course, that conventional compromise between the highest lights and the middle tints, which having been so long a custom with the graver appears to us as second nature. The results of the new process are in effect of light a sort of medium between the harshly-lit photograph and the softened mezzotint, to which we can alone compare it, for it is far finer and more delicate than any stone engraving that ever was produced. This softness is attained by slightly repassing the copperplate. Another most important advantage is its enduring permanency, which, although short of that of the ordinary copperplate, far exceeds the ephemeral usual photograph. This splendid discovery was made by Herr Pretsch, director of the Imperial printing-office of Vienna, and forms, in our opinion, an epoch in that combination of science and art which educes representation from sunlight.

THE GREAT DINING-HALL AT SOMERLEYTON.

SOMERLEYTON HALL.

Among the best evidences of the munificent patronage of Art in the present day is the artistic spirit displayed in the interior decoration of mansions erected for persons of opulence and taste; a remarkable instance of which liberal spirit has been shown by Sir Samuel Morton Peto, in "the proper house and home" which has lately been built for his residence at Somerleyton, in the county of Suffolk. We have selected for illustration two of the most beautiful portions of the mansion. First is

THE DINING-HALL.

The dimensions of this magnificent apartment are—34 feet in length, 24 feet wide, and about 22 feet high. The ceiling is divided into four compartments, all of which are enriched by beautiful floral ornaments, within a circle; these are heightened by a little colour and gildings. From the centre ornament depends an elegant glass chandelier. The massive beams which divide the ceiling into compartments are highly ornamented with roses and leaves, also heightened with gold. The segmental arches supporting these beams are enriched in the same way, and rest, or rather spring from, corbels of good design, composed alternately of a boar's head and spears and a stag's head, both surrounded by fruit and flowers. At the intersections of the beams are bold pendants, all heightened by colour and gold.

The panels on the eastern side, opposite the windows, above the wainscoting, are filled in with three paintings—the subjects taken from the life of Alfred the Great. The centre one represents Alfred in the Danish camp—this is by Maclise; the next, his education by his mother; and the third shows him at his inventions. The two latter are by Herbert. The panels of the wainscoting, on each side the fireplace, are to be filled with two subjects, by Clarkson Stanfield. They are already painted, but not yet placed. One represents the towing of the *Victory*, with the dead body of Nelson on board, already familiar to the visitors of the Royal Academy, it having been exhibited a year or two back. The other represents the "Storming of St. Sebastian."

The panels at either end of the room north and south are also decorated by a fine painting. One, a fine "Fruit-piece," by Lance; the other, "The Holy Family," by T. Uwins. The hall is lighted by two sets of windows: the upper ones being filled with stained glass, the lower are plain.

At either end of the hall, over the line of wainscoting, is placed a large looking-glass; that at the southern end can be pushed aside, and displays a fine organ. This, of course, takes the place of minstrels, being placed in that part formerly allotted to them, and thence called the Minstrels' Gallery. The effect produced by the introduction of the plates of glass is remarkably good, enlivening the upper part of the wall by the repetition of the ceiling, with its varied light and shade. The furniture, which is of solid oak, will strike the visitor by its boldness of design, the sideboards and fire-screen particularly.

The mansion has a chastely-decorated vestibule at the front entrance, and is lined with oak and marbles, floored with encaustic tiles, and lighted by a skylight filled with stained glass. This, next to the Winter Garden, might be called the gem of the place.

The Library is a good specimen of the time of James I., and is lined with carved oak: it is rather low in proportion to its area, but it has an air of agreeable comfort about it truly pleasing. The views from the windows is on to the terrace and gardens on the western side of the building. Next is

THE WINTER GARDEN.

This truly elegant building is situated on the north side of the hall, and is entered either from the drawing-room or by doors opening from the north or west sides: the general form is a square, divided by avenues branching from a centre in the form of a cross. Over the

THE LAGE

THE WINTER GARDEN, AT SOMERLEYTON.

centre rises an elegant cupola and lantern; this is supported by sixteen light columns of nice proportions, and capped with foliated capitals. The shafts of these centre columns are enriched with a raised arabesque ornament of a cream-coloured tint upon a yellow ground; the bases are enriched with a painted line or border of warm chocolate colour and blue. The columns supporting the divisions are less ornamented, but are still in keeping, and serve to concentrate the richness of appearance to the centre, around the fountain, which occupies a considerable space in the centre. Above the caps of the columns surrounding the fountain rise the arches which support the cupola, forming a spandril at the drum of this cupola: this drum is pierced for lights as well as the lantern. At night this dome can be lighted by gas, a ring of jets being placed at the base of the lantern. Suspended from the ribs, corresponding with the four avenues, are eight wire baskets, from which hang in graceful negligence lovely creepers. The walk between the basin and the flowers is roofed with glass, supported by Saracenic arches, whose spandrils are filled with a handsome pattern, coloured pale blue; from each of these arches is suspended a basket of similar form for creepers and plants of that character. Between the columns of the outer circle are placed large jars: these are of blue, with white flowers, and chocolate and white, for plants of choice odour, or bloom. In the avenue fronting the drawing-room windows stand two elegant alabaster jars: between these jars are placed statues, four in number, taken from the works of Shakspeare, Milton, Scott, and Moore, representing "Ophelia," the "Lady of the Lake," the "Lady of Erin," and "L'Allegro." These figures are from the chisel of Mr. J. Thomas. On each side the avenue, fronting the drawing-room, is a magnificent alabaster vase of finest workmanship, each standing upon a plinth of material, having bases of white marble. The angular space formed by the square outward form of the building, and the circular basin for the fountain, is filled up with exotic plants, whose varied green contrasts agreeably with the light colour of the building, and the statues; at intervals, along the avenues are arranged vases and flowers. The walls and piers, between the windows, are fitted up for climbing plants, whose roots have a resting in deep borders of earth, supported in front by encaustic tiles of lively pattern. At the northern end, on either side of the entrance, is placed a handsome cage of cast iron, of elegant design: they are in yellow and gilded, and enriched with stained glass. In one of the cages are seen small foreign birds, and in the other canaries, whose little throats fill the air with melody, and break the stillness, which would otherwise reign around, except when broken by the gentle plash of the fountain, which next attracts attention. This is a graceful object. The base has a dolphin on each side, from whose mouths issue a stream of water; their tails support a basin which receives the drops from the convolvulus-formed streams issuing from the hand of a graceful female figure, at whose feet horizontal fine jets play. Around the sides, avenues, and basin is an open grating for warm air. The exterior of this unique structure is Anglo-Italian in style, and has a charming effect when approached by the northern side. The clear red of the bricks, contrasted with the bold Caen stone quoins, pillared portal, and medallions, have something fairy-like about it. The interior at night, when lighted by its well-arranged gas jets, is quite a scene of enchantment. This garden, as well as the whole of the grounds, are under the able direction of Mr. Bradley.

The whole of the building, including the winter garden, has been designed by, and executed under the care of, Mr. J. Thomas, and reflects much credit on his taste.

RLEYTON.

THE VILLAGE OF SOMERLEYTON.

While the philanthropic owner of Somerleyton Hall has been studious of his own ease, he has been equally mindful of the welfare of his neighbours. Sir Morton has built the neat and picturesque village for their

abode close to the grounds of the Hall. The houses are particularly neat and well-finished, each containing six rooms fitted with every convenience and comfort. There are thirty-five in number. The whole are occupied by labouring men, who are allowed to reside in them for a very small sum per week. Each house has its garden nicely kept in order; and there is a shop which supplies the village with its grocery and linendrapery, besides which it is a post-office. The village has also its police-station. On the green shown in our View, the children of the villages may be seen gamboling about. The Chapel represented in the View is not complete at present. We should mention seven or eight of the residences are allotted to widows, and the whole has been raised by the munificence of Sir Moreton Peto for the benefit of the poor around his domains.

Somerleyton, commonly abbreviated into Somerley, lies on the left of the railway from Reedham to Lowestoft. It is a fine old hall, built in the time of Elizabeth, but much altered in the reign of James II., by Admiral Sir Thomas Alleyne, of Lowestoft. Fuller observes of it that "it well deserved the name of Summerly, because it was always summer there, the walks and gardens being planted with perpetual greens." In the time of the Conqueror it was possessed by William Earl of Warren and Surrey; next by the Osberts; then, through the marriage of Isabella Fitzosbert with Walter Jernegan, by "the famous knightly family" of the Jernegans of Jerninghame; and then by Sir Thomas Wentworth, whose eventual heiress, Elizabeth Wentworth, became the wife of Charles Garneys, Esq., of Kenton and Boyland, and conveyed Somerleyton to her husband. By their grandson, Thomas Garneys, Esq, the estate was sold, and afterwards came by purchase to the Sir Thomas Alleyne, or Allin, already mentioned, whose son, dying bachelor, devised it to Richard Anguish, Esq., his sister's husband, on condition of his taking the name and arms of Allin. By him Somerleyton was bequeathed to Lord Sydney Godolphin Osborne, of whom it was purchased by Mr. (now Sir Samuel Morton) Peto, in 1846, for whom the hall has been nearly rebuilt in the Anglo-Italian style. The names and rank of the historic possessors of the property are preserved in the painted windows, which are heraldically emblazoned with the effigies and arms of the Fitzosberts, Jernegans, Wentworths, Allins, Anguishes, and Osbornes. Among these stands out the fame of Admiral Sir Thomas Alleyne, who was a zealous Royalist, and, obtaining a command in the King's navy after the Restoration, had more than one victorious conflict with the Dutch, who, in his day, may almost be said to have divided the supremacy of the sea with England, for they almost as often beat as they were beaten. We are indebted for these genealogical details to Sir Bernard Burke's very interesting "Visitation of Seats and Arms," vol. 1.

LITERATURE.

THE OBSTRUCTIVES AND THE MAN; or, the Forces and the Future of Europe. Stanford.

This is an ambitious work, its author aspiring to rectify the political map of Europe. He brings to his subject varied and extensive information, and an earnest, though somewhat unchastened, spirit. Perhaps there is more bitterness infused into the volume than becomes a public teacher, in whom calmness is a virtue. Whenever the writer alludes to Austria he travels from Dan to Beersheba, and "finds it all barren." On the other hand, his eulogy on Napoleon III. is extravagant, for he is exalted to the rank of a demigod. Kossuth, however, is placed on the same lofty pedestal as the Emperor of the French. They are described as the "mighty representative men of this crisis," and "in action" we are told to "consider them as one rather than as two." The great Corsican and his nephew are elevated above humanity. "It is not the habit of Napoleons to fall till they are touched by the visible hand of God. They fall when they profane the ark of national right, not by mortal prowess. Napoleon is a principle; he speaks now by deeds, for he is a power, and he is France." Is it not true, however, that Louis Napoleon, when President, swore to uphold the French republic? and is it not equally true that he violated his oath? Since this book was published, has he not presented the cordon of the Legion of Honour to Marshal O'Donnell for destroying the constitutional liberties of Spain? We concur in the praise accorded to Sardinia, as the rising star of Italian freedom; but we do not accept the author's views of the future policy of the United States. "America," we are told, "yearns for naval supremacy. A marine is the natural and certain vent of her enterprise, for her coasts invite it, and her inland navigation nurtures it. America is only too sure, without any prompting or facilitating from Russia, to rival us on the seas." Mr. Marcy distinctly contradicts this prediction in his reply to the Count De Sartiges, French Ambassador at Washington, on the new maritime code accepted by the Congress of Paris:—"The United States," observes the American Secretary, "consider powerful navies and large standing armies, as permanent establishments, to be detrimental to national prosperity. The expense of keeping them up is burdensome to the people. They are, in the opinion of this Government, in some degree a menace to peace among nations." The Czar, the Kaisar, and Lord Palmerston are represented as the great enemies of liberty—the triumvirate of despotism. "Russia is the armed opponent of all human interests. Austria is the jackall of despotism. Do our statesmen reserve England for the climax? Would they make England the Judas of Civilisation?" Lord Palmerston is addressed in the following terms:—"You are the first of your craft, such as it is. You are foremost of a brotherhood of statesmen, among whom to be ranked at all is a danger and a reproach. . . . You have assisted at the suppression of nationalities, exchanged compliments over their graves, and sat yourself down, unlike an angel of light, hard by their several tombs, watching that the seals set thereon be not broken, nor the souls of them leap from their cerements to the day." One of the leading propositions of the writer is the restoration of the down-trodden nationalities of Poland, Hungary, and Italy.

From this general view of the subject we pass to the details and the mode of treatment. The author commences with a chart of the great revolutionary policy of Great Britain since 1772, the object of which is to show that during the whole period the British Government has been antagonistic to freedom—a charge enforced by a formidable array of facts. When the partitioning Powers announced to the several Courts of Europe that they had parcelled out Poland among themselves, George III. was "willing to suppose that the three Courts are convinced of the justice of their respective pretensions, although his Majesty is not informed of the reasons of their conduct;" and, in reply to a direct appeal from the King of Poland, the King of England professed to have "seen with extreme pain the evils which surround his Majesty," but considered that "those ills had arrived at a point at which they cannot be redressed except by the hand of the Almighty." In 1783 Sardinia, supported by France, called the attention of England to the Russian encroachments in the Crimea, but England declined any interference. In 1812 England persuaded Turkey to sign the Treaty of Bucharest, by which Russia acquired a footing on the Danube. In 1813 we enabled the Czar to retain Finland by wresting Norway from Denmark, and giving it to Sweden as a compensation. In 1815 we restored Sicily to Naples, without stipulating on behalf of the Sicilians for the maintenance of that free constitution we had bestowed on that island, and thus abandoned the liberalism we had professed. In 1827 we played the game of Russia by destroying the Turkish fleet at Navarino. In 1831, when the Polish Envoy, M. Walewski, implored the aid of England, supported at that time by the Cabinet of Vienna, who offered to restore Gallicia to Poland, Lord Palmerston replied that "the time for interference had not arrived." In 1848-49 Lord Palmerston allowed Hungary to succumb; refusing to listen to her Envoys, except through Austria, which amounted to abandonment, if not to direct hostility. These are some of the charges; but the list is far from being exhausted.

Though the style of the author is, generally, clear, pure, and vigorous, it is too often grossly disfigured by a spasmodic straining after effect, and displays the worst possible taste. We here give a specimen, which embodies his political view of England and Austria:—

The British Lion was a Lion in the days of Cromwell and the Covenant. Its roar was heard across the Atlantic, and its bound feared across the Alps. But the restoration came—of the Church and of the Stuarts. The British Lion was stolen by Rome as it came out of the conventicle. Its tail was tucked between its legs, its whiskers were trimmed, and its roar abated. Skins as of dead Charles I. poodledom were sewed neatly over its carcase; and it was trotted up and down the politico-ecclesiastical markets of Europe, warranted a splendid specimen of the genuine original Austro-Stuart breed. Nevertheless, in the Romish kennel it would not lie down, though drugged with the opium of the Vatican, shut up in the Romish cage with the happy family and menagerie-royal of the beasts and birds of Europe. When it was thought fit for a house-dog in Germany, its keepers drove in the stakes at Vienna, the tether was told out, and the litter laid; and the Lion, muzzled and tape-tangled, went up and down round Austria, guarding its precincts, and decoying other lions who knew the roar of England, but did not know its chains—as they came up with the swelling of the waters of the Rhine, the Po, and the Danube, or the Vistula—into the toils set on its borders. When the political pivot began to wear out the lion was loosed and ramped blindly back on the Rhine. Since then the old fable has been reversed. Britain and Austria the Lion and the Ass—have hunted in couples. The Eagle still soars in the Sun beyond their reach; but the roar of the Lion has frightened the prey under the heels of the Ass; and Austria, wrapping her carrion in the calfskin that Shakspeare flung her, lurks privily still at the corners and outskirts of events, and crouches at the turning-points of crises to seize upon prey that may be helpless.

If this is offered to the public as a sample of fine writing, we submit that the author has made a mistake, for it is unmitigated rant and fustian.

The chapter on the Balance of Power contains some sound reflections, and is introduced by many valuable quotations from eminent statesmen. Since Russia emerged from her deserts the international relations of Europe have been completely revolutionised. Charles V. of Spain, Louis XIV., and Napoleon aspired to universal monarchy, and failed. Cardinal Richelieu destroyed the earlier preponderance of Austria; and the coalition of England, Austria, and Holland frustrated the ambitious designs of France under the Grand Monarque. Since those days Holland, Spain, and Venice have sunk into helplessness; and the house of Brandenberg, ruling at Berlin, has competed (and still competes) for Germanic supremacy with the house of Hapsburg. Sweden has never rallied since the defeat at Pultawa; and, while her provinces, since that fatal day, have fallen by shreds into the power of the Muscovite, she vainly remembers the time when her flag floated over Narva, and the Palatines of Poland occupied Smolensko and Moscow. Russia, having seized Poland and Finland, projected herself into Europe, and, encamping within a comparatively short distance of Vienna and Berlin, has completely disturbed the old equilibrium of power, which our author seeks to readjust by restitution. The partition of Poland "constituted the precedent in international Lynch law, on which Russia has since presumed, and Europe is now balanced upon bayonets." But it should be borne in mind that Russia succeeded as much by the cunning of diplomacy as by force of arms. Peter the Great advised his people to marry the Germans and trade with the English; and, when Catherine II. was plotting the dismemberment of Poland, she wrote to Henry Prince of Prussia, "I will frighten Turkey; I will flatter England; do you take upon yourself to buy over Austria, that she may amuse France." Of every mistake committed by the Western Powers Russia has availed herself with singular adroitness. When it was too late Louis XV. exclaimed, "I would rather have sold my last carriage than have permitted the seizure of Poland!" English blundering enabled Alexander I. to occupy and retain Finland; and the late Austrian Concordat with Rome has shaken the loyalty of all those Austrians of Sclavonic race who profess the Russo-Greek faith.

The great battle now impending on Europe is one of principle, not of dynasty; it is the decisive struggle of liberty against despotism; and our author thus ranges the forces on either side in this fearful encounter, classifying them into PEOPLES, MEN, and PRINCIPLES:—

Napoleon III., the French and English peoples, the Protestant faith, and the Italian, Hungarian, and Polish nationalities. Against—the Russian system (of which the Czar is a part) and people, the German army (not the people, which is partly Sclavonic and partly liberal) and dynasty, the French Jesuits and the English Oligarchy.

In submitting this view of the European problem, great stress is laid on the reply of Louis Napoleon to the Polish address, in which he said—"I expected such a manifestation from you. Hitherto I have not been able to do what I could have wished for your country; but the march of events now permits me to hope that I may be useful to you in continuing the work commenced by him whose heir I am." In completing this scheme for reconstructing the political map of Europe, and restoring the independence of Poland, Louis Napoleon is to paralyse Austria and seize the Rhenish frontier, take Savoy for France, and give Lombardy, and perhaps Venetia, to Sardinia; we say perhaps, for the author puts a query as to Venetia, on which he has evidently not yet made up his mind. There is another combination in which the fertile imagination of our author indulges. The Circassian, the Turk, the Hungarian, the Pole, and the men of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Finland, would be a combination before which even Russia must pause. Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, constituting the Scandinavian family, are to form a balance against Russian ascendancy in the Baltic; and Finland must be restored to Sweden, otherwise she will form a nursery of seamen for the Russian navy.

We have now placed before our readers the leading doctrines or dogmas of this book, in which an end is proposed, and the means are provided for attaining to that end. The whole policy recommended appears to us a mixture of sound feelings and fanciful hypotheses. The paralysis of Austria and the seizure of the Rhenish frontier by France, which, if we rightly understand the author, are conditions precedent to the reconstruction of Poland, are stumbling-blocks in the way not so easily removed as he appears to imagine. Prussia will soon be as closely allied to England as, during the reign of Nicholas, she was to Russia, and that alliance may operate a very important change in the politics of Europe, though to this dynastic change no allusion is made. Perhaps England would demur to Prussia being despoiled of her Rhenish provinces, nor is she deeply interested in paralysing Austria. After all, why should France preponderate any more than Russia?

HISTORY OF THE REIGN OF CHARLES V. By W. ROBERTSON, D.D. With an Account of the Emperor's Life after his Abdication. By WILLIAM H. PRESCOTT. Two volumes. Geo. Routledge and Co.

Much has of late been written concerning the eventful life of the Emperor Charles V., yet Robertson still remains the best historian of this truly remarkable man. Mr. Stirling has given us a quaint but rather fanciful account of the cloister life of the most renowned of the modern imitators of Diocletian; and Messieurs Amédée Pichot, Mignet, and Gachard have, by their commendable researches, thrown much light upon various portions of his extraordinary career. The consequence is, that Charles V. now stands forth in bold relief, and his character is understood and appreciated as well as that of any of the great actors in history with which we are acquainted. Mr. Prescott, whose name has long been distinguished in literature, comes forward to put the crown to the column, by publishing a new edition of Robertson's "Charles V.," with four additional books of his own composition. In this manner he renders Robertson's history a full and complete work, enriching it with those details which recent industrious investigation has rescued from the ravages of time. Mr. Prescott brings the book down to the present day; and, as it is not very likely, after the rigid scrutiny that has been instituted in this subject, that any further discoveries of importance will be made, Robertson's "History of Charles V.," improved and enlarged by Prescott, bids fair to remain the standard authority. It contains all details any reasonable man can desire to know of this illustrious hermit-monarch—at one moment plunged in the mysteries of state policy, at another discussing the composition of some new delicacy. Robertson shows us the warrior and statesman as he appeared amid the din and battle of a rather stormy existence in troublous times. Mr. Prescott continues the story by describing the man in the romantic solitudes of the monastery of Yuste. Charles had resigned the diadem, but he could not lay aside the love of ruling nor the cares of state. His perpetual anxiety to be something, his love of the direction of state affairs, his occasional fits of devotion, his relish for the pleasures of the table, all help to form one of the strangest characters that flit across the page of history. There is plenty of moral in such a life. Charles the recluse in the mountain convent brings Charles the Emperor into more prominent notice. Mankind love to contemplate these violent contrasts in the condition of one person, and the fact that the change is self-imposed only serves to heighten the general interest. Many have greatness thrust upon them, and others are borne by the wave of circumstances into positions for which they are not fitted by possessing either virtues or mental qualifications; yet few voluntarily drop the robes of authority, quit the busy scenes of the struggle, carrying their greatness and glory with them into their retirement. This is what Charles to a certain extent accomplished, and it is this which renders his fame more enduring. His history is a romance without the fiction, or truth in its most attractive garb. Mr. Prescott has added another wreath to his chaplet. In following in the steps of Robertson, enriching the works of his predecessor while adding a volume to his own, he has shown that the high position which he holds among living writers is one to which he is in every respect entitled.

THE HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES OF BOSTON, AND THE VILLAGES COMPRISING THE HUNDRED OF SKIRBECK, IN THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN. By P. THOMPSON. Illustrated with One Hundred Engravings. London: Longman and Co.

Mr. Emerson, in his "English Traits," makes a remark regarding the endless wealth of England, and the marvellous importance of many of its small towns, which must have occurred to many a reader of county and other local histories. "I reply," he says, "to all the urgencies that refer me to this and that object indispensably to be seen—yes, to see England well needs a hundred years; for what they told me was the merit of Sir John Soane's museum in London—that it was well packed and well saved—is the merit of England: it is stuffed full, in all corners and crevices, with towns, towers, churches, villas, palaces, hospitals, and charity-houses." Let anyone look into this history of Boston, for example—although, compared with scores of mushroom towns in America, which have not lasted a quarter of a century, it might hide head its diminished head, at least so far as size is concerned. At the last Census it contained only 14,997 inhabitants. And yet what an interesting series of events have been crowded into that little spot of ground, from the time that St. Botolph built a monastery there, A.D. 654, to the erection of the Athenæum and the Corn Exchange in the market-place of Boston within the last few years!

Mr. Thompson, in writing the history of his native district, has gone the right way to work for making a truly valuable book. More than half a century ago he began collecting materials for a "History of Boston." In 1820 he published an interesting volume of these materials, under the modest title of "Collections for a Topographical and Historical Account of Boston, and the Hundred of Skirbeck, in the County of Lincoln;" but, this work having been out of print for a number of years, he was persuaded to undertake the task of preparing a new, enlarged, and corrected edition. Having continued the work of collection and arrangement from the period of his first publication, and having obtained a large amount of curious miscellaneous information relative to the district during a residence of some years in the United States, he has been enabled to bring together a mass of interesting historical, topographical, and antiquarian lore which must delight the heart of every truly patriotic inhabitant of the district to which it relates. For, let the *Times* declaim as it may against provincialism, and in favour of the cultivation of cosmopolitanism, the people of England will always retain a strong and deep attachment to the town or district in which they were born, will always take a peculiar interest in all that relates to the welfare and renown of that place, however small, and will always, we trust, give a hearty welcome to a book like the one before us, in which the noteworthy events in the history of a town are so well recorded.

To those who are not much acquainted with the ancient history of Boston it may seem strange that a town which appears to have been in existence centuries before the Norman Conquest should contain so small a number of inhabitants at the present day. On consulting Mr. Thompson's work, however, they will find that Boston was a place of great commercial importance long before Liverpool had come into existence as a seaport. So far back as the reign of King John, it appears, from a return of the sums paid by the principal ports in the kingdom on account of the *Quinzième*, a tax of one-fifteenth of the movable goods of all merchants, that Boston ranked next to London in the amount of its contribution. Hull and Newcastle together did not pay as much to the revenue in 1205 as Boston did. At the end of the thirteenth century the duties paid by Boston exceeded those of London for a period of ten years. The rank which it then held was owing to its favourable geographical position; the trade of England in those days being chiefly with Holland, Flanders, and France—countries lying eastward of England. Let it be remembered also that Boston was "situated at the mouth of a river navigable to Lincoln for boats of considerable size, and thence by the Foss-dyke, communicating with the Trent and its numerous tributary streams. It may be said that Boston was the outlet into which the surplus produce of sixteen or eighteen of the counties of England would naturally flow, and where the foreign articles consumed by the inhabitants of those counties would as naturally arrive for sale and distribution." Those who wish to know what causes led to the decline of its commercial importance, and the circumstances to which it owes its present prosperity, will find them amply related by Mr. Thompson.

Our limited space forbids our giving any account of the interesting information relating to the antiquities of the town and district; but we shall probably take an opportunity of extracting some of the most curious items as occasion offers.

PEN AND PENCIL PICTURES. By THOMAS HOOD. Hurst and Blackett.

Somebody once had this whimsical notion—was it "Hood's *own*," or Sydney Smith's, or Thomas Ingoldsby's? for we don't precisely recollect—that the office of your modern reviewer was perhaps the best fulfilled by cutting the leaves and smelling the paper-knife. Here, however, is a book that hackneyed critics even will read with unflagging interest, or we are very much mistaken, from titlepage to "finis." It is the maiden work of Thomas Hood the younger, and, as such, it commands from one and all affectionate greeting. The author-artist is a student of Pembroke College, Oxford, but just of age, and destined, we believe, to "enter life" in the clerical profession.

The kindliest welcome that can be given is his right, his heritage. It is such, in his capacity as the only son of that dear friend of us all—the charming poet, the unrivalled humourist—who "sleeps well," "after life's fitful fever," under the grass of Kensal-green, in that secluded corner of the national cemetery henceforth classical by reason of the tasteful monument there erected "in memory of Thomas Hood," by a people's love, evidenced through a public and very miscellaneous subscription. How tenderly, we may be sure, the large and gentle heart of that dead father would have yearned, had he been spared until now, over the forthcoming of this, the first literary offspring of the heir to his name! His affection for this child of many hopes—do we not all know how deep it was, how earnest it was, how full of sweet and eloquent tenderness? Remember, in proof of it all, those exquisite stanzas, "To a child embracing its mother"—that child the author of this volume; and those three graceful sonnets upon a kindred theme (the same child "sleeping")—the last of which, commencing in sadness, thus closes with a pun:—

Gladly turning from the world's annoy
I gaze upon a little radiant face,
And bless internally the merry boy
Who makes a *son-shine* in a shady place!

The unmistakable son of his father does Tom Hood the younger prove himself repeatedly in the work before us. Witness his ludicrous description of the dress of Panurgus Pebbles:—

"Look at his dwass!" drawls the elegant Pulker. "One would think he—aw—dwassed himself with a knife and fawk—aw. Whan he was at school he always had five patches about his person: two—aw—that he knelt on; two—aw—that he leant on, and one—aw—that he sat on—aw!"

By way of contrast we quote from an Apologue on Angels:—

There is one angel that thou may'st remember about thy cradle, singing low sweet songs to thee. Nay, at that angel's knee didst thou, grown older, lisp thy first prayer; and now that angel whispers to thy heart, "This is well," or "This is ill done." Men call it conscience; but when that angel walked visibly on earth, thy baby lips used to call it "Mother."

And there are yet other angels who guard thy steps through life—some

visible, of this world—some invisible, of the other world; and one thou callest "Father;" others "Sisters," "Brethren," "Friends"—all angels.

And behold there is still another angel, with clear, earnest, soft eyes, and long dark locks, that make a calm night around your brow when that angel bends over you to kiss you; and a sweet low voice, and a light fairy form and step—so light that you know she flies sometimes—she cannot walk so silently and swiftly. And that angel's voice is sweeter even than the voice of Conscience. And she is a visible angel—and sometimes thou callest it "Love;" but in thy later years it hath a dearer name—the dearest name on earth—"Wife," and that angel ever dwelleth with thee and blesseth thee.

But that dearest angel is the light and blessing of thy life, and in thy youth thou dreamest that forget-me-nots first blossomed at her feet; but afterwards, in thy later thoughts, she is crowned with pansies.

And when thou kneelest down thou prayest God—oh! how earnestly—that that angel may tarry long with thee on earth; that no fault of thine may cause that she fade away, and leave thee for that bright home in heaven from which thou knowest so well she came down to be the life of thy life.

So pray ever, and long may thine angel abide with thee!

Our young author's verses are graceful enough to disarm criticism; nor are they deficient in feeling, proof of which is given in the following, from his Address to the Reader:—

And if aught should move you to weeping,
In reading the volume o'er,
The writer's tears—believe me—
Have dropt on the page before.

And if you are moved to smiling,
When a merry jest you note,
The writer's heart—believe me—
Was smiling too when he wrote.

Another gay example of his hereditary whimsicality may be found in this fantastic description of his chief comic hero, P. Pebbles—a character lightly touched off with a pen of most agreeable facetiousness:—

A jack of all trades, and master of none, was Panurgus Pepples: from the birchen tingle of boyhood to the mental pains of man's estate, his shallow versatility was his bane; from the first kick and crow in long clothes to the silent rigidity in the shroud, his life, a patchwork harlequin, was ever slapping and flapping him. His mind was like Jaques' motley fool, or rather like a kaleidoscope—yet wanted reflection—the smoked glasses in that instrument, that by doubling the confused mass of glass splinters, &c., change disorder into a pattern of neatness.

As evidence of the lively imagination of Hood the Second, take his "Fire Fancies:"—

When a man has no company, Fire creates them. Fire sparkles, and flames, and throws dancing shadows on the walls and ceiling. In the first place, there is one's own shadow—that's always a pleasant companion. Mæcenas thought so, and he was a very clever fellow. Horace says:—

Mæcenas adduxerat umbras.

Some people say "umbræ" are uninvited persons brought by guests; but I don't believe it. (Everybody else conjectures classical readings—why shouldn't I?) Mæcenas was a rich man, and so he bought two or three shadows. Lucky fellow! he must have got them of some Roman Peter Schlemils. Poor fellows, how I pity them!

Well, besides one's own shadow, there's that of the arm-chair. Look up on the ceiling—there it is. It looks like a little merry old man with his hands on his knees; look how he nods his wicked old head (and, I dare say, winks, only we can't see it) at that prim young lady with the curious head-dress (she's the little table, with the coffee-pot and lamp on it). The shadow of the coal-scuttle is something between a frog, a dog, and a cow's head. There they are, flickering and bobbing on the wall—growing faint and then bright again all of a sudden, when Fire catches hold of a sly coal in the corner of the grate, and begins to chuckle and splutter over it. Besides affording us this shadowy company (I was going to say *shady* company, but the expression is a dubious one), he's very sociable himself, is Fire; though he has his thoughtful moments, too, when he winks and pouts out little globules of gaseous coal, like a baby blowing bubbles with its little fat mouth.

If he gets hold of wood he makes a fine to-do: he whistles, and crackles, and throws out sparks, and is not altogether such pleasant company as he is when he has coals: though even then, if he finds a bit of slate or stone among them, he ejects it summarily with a loud exclamation. He's very pleasant when he gets red and warm, and shoots out his queer-shaped flames, and when the curious smoke goes winding up the chimney making faces and rings and all sorts of shapes. He's facetious, too, for sometimes when he sees you with your pipe, he begins too, and puffs out a little jet of thick, white smoke, and then he changes it suddenly with a faint "pop" into a jet of bright gas, bringing to our recollection the greengrocers in Tottenham-court-road. If left unnoticed he often takes refuge in smoke (like ill-used bachelors), and departs by the chimney leaving the cinders to tinkle his knell.

Enough—the book is a capital first venture. As the production of a young collegiate student, it is, we cannot but think, remarkable. As a maiden work, emblazoned in its title with a great name, it yields (and surely it is much to say so?) no disappointment. As a Christmas offering made to the reading public by the only son of dear Tom Hood, it commands, we repeat, a glad and eager acceptance—an acceptance, we are rejoiced to know, it is now very rapidly obtaining. The portrait of Mr. Hood is from a photograph recently taken by his friend Mr. John Watkins, of Parliament-street.

A GLANCE AT THE ZOOLOGICAL REPRESENTATIONS ON THE NINEVEH BAS-RELIEFS.

To wander through the galleries and vaults of the British Museum appropriated to the sculptured antiquities brought from the once glorious but now entombed city of Nineveh is an intellectual luxury. After the first feelings of bewilderment are over, and the mind settles down to the task of scrutiny, it is then that we begin to realise the full value of the objects around us. We feel that we are thrown back into times of remote antiquity—that a mysterious page in the history of nations is spread before us. Many are its revelations, some are patent to every reflective observer, others are to be deciphered only by laborious study. In due time we begin to grow familiar with the kings and their attendants, with the people and their habits, with their wars and triumphs, with their splendour and barbarity. We are soon constrained to acknowledge that, however elevated in the arts or powerful as a nation the Assyrians may have been, they were a cruel people—cruel in their wars, cruel to the vanquished, cruel to the wild animals of the chase. They delighted in bloodshed; their conquests were followed by wholesale slaughter, and the chase, evidently a passion, was merely a battue.

We are not, however, about to attempt an analysis of any series of slabs in regular order; on the contrary, our present object is to pick out certain points of zoological interest which these sculptures represent, and offer a few brief comments upon them. It must be remembered that these slabs, covered ever with sculptured figures, are not of one age or period of time, but of successive epochs, the most recent of which are of remote antiquity. Three thousand years have passed since the sculptor's hand plied the "chisel's art" upon their surface. They open to our contemplation the events of a succession of dynasties from Derceto (1250 B.C.) to the son of Asshurakpal (who reigned about 630 B.C.) They record the sieges of towns, the combats of warriors, the triumphs of kings, the processions of the victors, the chains and fetters of the vanquished. But besides these subjects of high interest to the explorer of the history of nations passed away, to the learned antiquary they unfold to our inspection a portfolio of zoological drawings *ad naturam*, executed by artists of great eminence in their day and generation, who evidently studied their subject, and engaged upon their work with energy. Let us turn from kings and satraps, the conquerors and the conquered, to these not less interesting subjects. How numerous are the tableaux of lions and lion-hunts, how spirited and truthful are those chiselled lithoglyphs! Lions are before us in every attitude. Here we behold them in combat; here in movable dens or cages, from which they are about to issue forth: these cages are composed of stout bars or stocks of wood, and much resemble in form a square rat-trap, having in front at the top a small cage-like tower, of the same material, for the security of the man whose office it is to raise up the portcullis for the exit of the ferocious beast, which is delineated in the act of creeping forth, with a snarl and glaring eyes, aware of the enemies which he has to encounter. He is in the centre of a spacious arena inclosed by a wall—a living wall—consisting of men with interlocked shields in close array, each with an uplifted spear in his right hand ready to strike and drive the animal back into the open space, where the monarch and his nobles wheel around in their chariots launching their arrows at the half-terrified, half-infuriated animal. Not always were the hunters unscathed: in one slab a led horse has the lion fastened upon his haunches by teeth and talons; in another the lion is wrenching the chariot wheel in his agony and despair. One hunt presents us with four lions and two lionesses, dead or dying, transfixed with numerous arrows or javelins, in the arena. Wonderful is the picture. The attitudes of the animals are varied in the extreme: in some the relaxed limbs show that death has ended their torments; in others the agony is displayed in the contortion of the face and limbs, while a torrent of blood is vomited from the open mouths, and pours from the wounds made by the weapons, which often completely transfix the body. Painful are the pictures of lions struck through the muscles and spinal column of the loins; the lower limbs deprived of power are dragging along the ground, while the head and shoulders are erect, every lineament of the countenance exhibiting the intensity of despairing rage. The annexed cut represents a lioness whose hinder limbs are paralysed by an arrow through the backbone.

In some instances we have the representation of a single combat. A fragmental slab shows a warrior grasping the tail of a lion, probably wounded, which appears to be turning round on the defensive; but this part of the slab is defective. On another slab we see a King grasping a rampant lion by the throat, and passing his sword through the animal's chest; while, on a third slab, the King receives the lion on his spear, which he is driving down its throat. It was not, however, always that lions were brought in cages (like a bagged fox or a carted deer) to the man-walled arena: they were also hunted on the open plain, roused up by men and dogs from their lair. Many are the representations of lions baited by dogs—and such dogs! terrible creatures!—but of these we shall speak hereafter. These dogs not only brought the lion to bay, but grappled with him, as the charioteers with their bows dashed up to their assistance. We may observe, *en passant*, that the Assyrian bow was of a very peculiar shape, strung with a thick string, and fitted with long and almost javelin-like arrows. A slab demonstrates the strength of the bow by the delineation of two men employed in stringing it. The strung bow is equal in length from the ground to the warrior's shoulder. We are speaking of the recently-received slabs not as yet publicly exhibited.

Lion-hunting was evidently a passion amongst the ancient Assyrians, and as troops of captive enemies were led in procession to the foot of the conqueror, so were the bodies of the lions slaughtered by the hand of the monarch (flattered, no doubt, as to the number which fell beneath his weapons); for on one slab we see a procession of men carrying slain lions on their shoulders; each lion being supported by several men. The outline of the lions is most artistic.

There is one slab of peculiar interest connected with lions. It represents a sort of fortress, composed of many embattled towers of various height, rising up on the bank of a river. Above these towers—or rather, perhaps, allowing for deficiency of perspective—beyond them we see the portico of a palace, with pillars, and an esplanade beneath them, whereon are several lions walking about at their ease, as if guardians of the portal. May not this be the Royal keep or stronghold of a castle, with its outer walls and towers guarded by lions, as dogs guarded the citadels and fortresses of Greece? The Egyptian monarchs are said, in many instances, to have been accompanied in battle by a favourite lion. The Egyptians, moreover, employed tame lions for the chase; as in India, at the present day, the cheetah, or hunting-leopard, is kept in training for the pursuit of the antelope.

One thing, on a review of these stone tablets, cannot but strike us; that is, the multitude of lions which were brought to the arena, or hunted on the open plain. Probably they were kept and bred in vast preserves, or Royal parks, as are deer, foxes, and pheasants in our island; for certainly more were killed in a few battues than could be found throughout a very large portion of Mesopotamia in the present day. We must reflect, however, that the lion, even within historic periods, was far more common and widely-spread in Western Asia than at present; it abounded also in the adjacent parts of Europe. Herodotus informs us that the camels which carried the baggage of the army of Xerxes were attacked by them in the district of the Pæonians and Crestonœi on their march from Acanthus to Therme (afterwards Thessalonia, now Salonica). He adds that these animals were numerous in the mountains between the rivers Nestus in Thrace and the Achelous which flows through Acarnania. Aristotle gives the same locality as the abode of lions, and the same fact is recorded by Pliny, who says—"Longè viribus præstantiores ûs quos Africa aut Lybia gignunt" (they far exceed in strength those which Africa or Lybia produces). Pausanias, alluding to the disasters which befel the baggage-camels of Xerxes, states that lions often descended to the plain at the foot of Olympus, between Macedonia and Thessaly.

Mr. Layard states that the lion is now rarely found on the banks of the Tigris as far north as Mosul, or even above Bagdad. It would appear, however, to be more common along the Euphrates. It does not now exist in Syria.

We have already alluded to the hunting-dogs, so finely portrayed on the recently-received slabs, engaged in contests with lions and wild asses. These dogs are of huge size, and of most ferocious aspect, with rather short but pendulous ears, a large head, deep muzzle, and vigorous limbs. They much resemble the largest and fiercest of our old mastiffs. They were led by attendants, and secured by means of a leash attached to a strong collar, and were thus ready to be slipped upon the quarry. We see them eager to rush forward, as well as in every conceivable attitude during the desperate conflict. On a slab representing the chase of the wild ass, one dog has seized the animal by the chest, while another dog has fastened on the ham, into which his teeth are deeply buried. No boar-hunt by Snyders or stag hunt by Landseer can be more truthful and spirited. Mr. Layard says that he did not find any decided figures of the dogs on the walls of Khorsabad, although hunting scenes were delineated. The slabs in question represent many hunts, in which these dogs take a prominent part. On another slab, for example, we have a picture of the chase of the wild ass by dogs and men armed with bows and arrows, and there are others of a similar character.

No sculptured dogs of antiquity that we have seen can for a moment be compared with these Assyrian mastiff-hounds. Such, perhaps, were the dogs of which Herodotus speaks; who says that, during the Persian occupation of Babylon, the number of these animals kept in the province was so great, that four cities were exempted from taxes for maintaining them. They were "dogs of war." Such, perhaps, was "Soter, the defender and saviour of Corinth."

With respect to the wild ass, which is still to be seen in the Sinjar (to the west of Mosul) and on the banks of the Euphrates, it is represented on many slabs, and under different circumstances. On one we see a group of wild asses scouring the desert, flying to avoid the fate of an unlucky individual who is caught round the neck by a sort of double lasso. Two men are engaged, and each has thrown, not a noose, but a long loop of cordage or leather thong over the animal's head. They stand opposite to each other, holding the two ends of the line, so that, the strain being in different directions, the animal cannot disengage itself, as it might do if one loop only had been successfully thrown. The attitudes of the asses in this group are exquisite. Mr. Layard tells us that the Arabs of the Sinjar sometimes catch the foals of the wild ass during the spring, and bring them up in their tents; but he does not mention the mode in which their capture is affected.

We read in the Scriptures of the wild bulls of Bashan. That the wild bull was a tenant of Assyria and Mesopotamia generally, as well as of Syria and Asia Minor (to say nothing of Europe), is evident from the many representations of it on the bas-relief slabs in the British Museum. It was scarcely less formidable than the lion, and the King is seen contending with it, accompanied by armed men both on horseback, in chariots, and on foot. A magnificent wild bull hunt is delineated on one of the slabs in the gallery, displaying an animated scene of bulls, horsemen, and charioteers: one bull is prostrate, transfixed with javelins.

But, besides the wild bull, domestic oxen of various breeds are of frequent occurrence; in some the horns are thick and slouching, and the withers high and hump-like; perhaps these are buffaloes. On one of the slabs we have a procession, perhaps, of the spoils of war, in which a cart or rude car, with three peasants or captives in it, is represented drawn by these oxen or buffaloes, with a drove of the same animals before them. In other instances the oxen have turned-up horns, arched necks, and straight backs. On the celebrated obelisk we see a bull with lunate horns, maned, and adorned with a collar and tassels round the neck. To this succeeds what Mr. Layard regards as intended to represent the Indian rhinoceros; but which, in spite of its single conical horn, we believe to be another kind of ox, and the rather, as, on a slab adjacent, we observed an animal, confessedly an ox, in which one horn is represented precisely in the same manner. It must be remembered that the artists of antiquity represent the algazel of Northern Africa as the unicorn, with only one horn, and often, also, with only a single fore and hind leg, for obvious reasons. It may be intended for the gour or jungly gau (gayâl or soloi) of India. The animal next in succession is regarded by Mr. Layard as the chikara antelope; but this it certainly is not. It may be the bekr-el-wash, the wild ox of the Arabs, the *bubales* of the ancients (*antilope bubales*), which occurs among the figures on the monuments of Upper Egypt, and which, now common in Northern Africa, appears formerly to have inhabited Upper Egypt. But we speak in doubt, for it may be intended to represent one of the large argalis, or mouflons, of the mountain ranges. Its horns, its powerful limbs, its short upturned tail, and general aspect favour this conjecture, although the stature is somewhat exaggerated; but this is of no consequence, seeing that we have an elephant on the same obelisk equalled in height by a tailless ape, and much exceeded by the man who holds the ape in a leash. May it not be intended as a representation of the Armenian argali (*Ovis Gmelinii*)? The same animal—called rass, or roosh, and also kooshgar—is noticed in Sir A. Burnes' "Travels in Bokhara;" but Lieutenant Wood, in the narrative of his recent journey to the source of the Oxus, distinguishes between the rass and the kutchgar (kooshgar)—the former having straight, spiral horns. The kutchgar, he says, is a noble animal, standing as high as a two-year-old colt, with a venerable beard, and two splendid curling horns, which, with the head, were so heavy as to require considerable exertion to lift them. We may here refer to Marco Polo, whose account of these mouflons has been so recently confirmed; nor must we here forget the splendid Siberian argali, first described by Pallas. With respect to species we do not presume to say anything determinate; we would only venture to suggest that the figure in question is that of a mouflon or argali.

It is remarkable that on the same obelisk we find the Bactrian, or two-humped, camel, which is a native of the great steppes inhabited by the Tartar tribes, and is not known in Syria, Arabia, or Egypt (except as a foreign animal). The range of this camel extends through Central Asia, Thibet, and the Chinese borders. This is the camel of the Crimea and of the region around the Black Sea. The argali tenants the same extent of country, in the mountain districts and over the elevated plains of Siberia. Among other tributary animals on the same obelisk is the elephant, evidently of the Asiatic species, as is indicated by its small ears; and three apes, one of large size and tailless, and which, but that its arms are very short, and its lower limbs very large and powerful, might be regarded as the ourang-outang. It walks upright. The second ape has a short tail, and is also walking upright. A third, of smaller size, is resting on the shoulders of the man who leads the second, in a leash round the neck. The first, or ourang, is by far the largest, and is led in a similar way by a single attendant. In a separate group, again, are two monkeys or apes, secured by thick chains in the grasp of two keepers. It is impossible to make out the species; but one, from its long mane and mass of flowing hair on the head, may be the wanderoo (*Macacus silenus*), a native of Malabar and Ceylon. We introduce a representation of one of these apes or baboons on the shoulders of a showman.

Representations of apes or monkeys on slabs are not unfrequent; but it would puzzle the naturalist to declare even as to their genus. They were not animals which the Assyrian artists had studied; they were curiosities brought from afar. To return, however, from these Simiæ to the sheep and other ruminants: of sheep and goats, evidently domestic, we have many representations on the recent slabs. We have groups of both sometimes intermingled together; the sheep are occasionally of the fat-tailed race, but on other slabs they resemble British breeds, and, to our eyes, those in particular of our middle-woolled stock—especially the Dorset. The rams are horned, the ewes either hornless or with small horns; and the figure is altogether such as a farmer would not despise. On such a slab, representing such sheep, we see a mingling of goats and oxen; the goats, not only on this but on other slabs, are of different breeds, as they are even in our own island. Some have horns resembling those of the ibex or paseng, except that they are smaller; in others the horns are straight, with a spiral twist; in many instances we see both sheep and goats accompanied by their young. The intermingled flocks of sheep and goats cannot but remind the spectator of the expression in the Scriptures:—"He shall separate them from one another as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats, and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left" (Matthew xxv., 32-33). We read in the same sacred work of the ravages on the flocks committed by the lion.—See Micah v., 8; Jerem. l., 17, &c. The wild goat (ibex or paseng) is of frequent occurrence on these wondrous monuments of antiquity. On one we see a playful group with their young; another offers the representation of a hunt of these animals, which are yet abundant in the mountains of Kurdistan, where they were observed by Mr. Layard, who saw them in flocks. Some of his party, he says, endeavoured to get within gunshot of them; but he adds that "after sunrise their watchfulness cannot be deceived, and they bounded off to the highest peaks long before the most wary of our marksmen could approach them." In the same range he states that bears are numerous, and much dreaded. He met with instances in which both sheep and oxen had fallen victims to their rapacity, and heard continual complaints of their depredations. On one occasion he measured the skin of a bear recently killed by a young hunter after a hazardous encounter, which was seven feet in length. They not only destroy cattle, but carry off the fruit (in the cultivated lands), both when on the trees and when laid out to dry. We have not recognised the bear in any of the Assyrian slabs in the British Museum, although the ibex of the same mountain district is a common subject of delineation. In the district of Tiyari the fronts of the houses are ornamented with the skulls and horns of the ibex, and the walls of the interior are decorated with sketches of these animals, and of snakes in every variety of posture. This note refers to the village of Zaweetha, where, Mr. Layard observes, "a taste for the fine arts seemed to prevail." The inhabitants of these mountains are descendants of the ancient Assyrians.

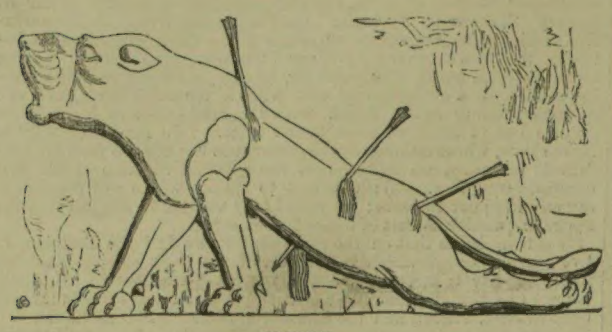
Among other animals on these pictorial slabs, we observe at least two species of deer—namely, the stag and the fallow-deer. The stag—a true *Cervus*—with branched horns, is not uncommon; and in one instance we see it inclosed within a net. To drive the deer or the wild hog into the mesh, the hunter's toils, was not only a practice in ancient times, but even in the mediæval ages.

To the classical reader abundant references to this mode of sport will suggest themselves; we shall not, therefore, intrench upon our space by quotations. The representations of the fallow-deer, which cannot be mistaken—the palmate horns, and even the spotted markings of the coat, being very correctly drawn—are very interesting. On one slab (No. 17), a deer of this species is carried by a hunter with the intent probably of saving it, or introducing it into a park. The fallow-deer is abundant in our island, and over temperate and southern Europe generally, but its original locality is involved in some degree of obscurity. Cæsar does not mention it as one of our animals, nor (as far as we recollect) of the adjacent parts of the Continent; yet it has a name in the ancient British language, and it was certainly a tenant of our woods in the Saxon times. If it be an introduced animal into our island, we know neither the date nor the circumstances of its introduction. Cuvier, who remarks that the fallow-deer (the *Platyceros* of Pliny) has become common in all the countries of Europe, adds that it is a native originally of Barbary! We have ourselves examined many of the horns of the fallow-deer sent to the Zoological Society from the Tunisian territories, and we learn that it is known in Abyssinia. It inhabits Lithuania, Moldavia, Greece, and extends into Persia and the north of China. It was once common in Mesopotamia, or, at least, the district around Nineveh, as its representation on these entablatures proves. Thus, then, setting Europe aside, we have an extensive *habitat* for this species; but, in our own opinion, this *habitat* stretched over central and southern Europe, including our island, into which we are inclined to believe that it never owed its introduction to human agency. However this may be, it is certainly interesting to see our favourite fallow-deer on these reliquiæ of bygone ages.

We have not noticed the wild boar on any of the slabs before us (one was found on a fragment in the latest-discovered palace, but the head was missing); but in the gallery, in a series of slabs (55, 56, &c.), which represent the transfer of a carved colossal bull to some other site, under the direction of Sennacherib, we observe a domestic sow and a litter of pigs, in a sort of paddock inclosed by a dense hedge of spiked shrubs. The sow is of goodly aspect, and appears to belong to a substantial farmer. In an adjacent inclosure we see two tame female deer—not fallow-deer, but of the genus *Cervus*, evidently domesticated. One is lying down quiet, while it chews the cud; the other is in a standing posture.

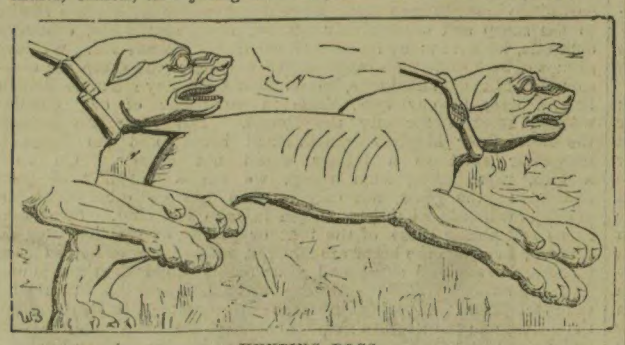
We have alluded to the figures of the Bactrian, or two-humped, camel, as occurring in a triumphal procession. It does not, therefore, surprise us to find numerous representations of the Arabian or Syrian one humped species, common over Northern Africa and Asia Minor. The two breeds, the ordinary camel of burden and the light swift breed, or dromedary, are distinctly characterised on one slab taken from the central ruins at Nimroud: two horsemen, armed with spears, are pursuing a fugitive, probably an Arab, mounted on a fleet camel, which seems to strain every muscle as it speeds along. Dead or dying men—one decapitated—are lying on the ground. They are weaponless, as is the rider on the camel, who holds forth his arm in token of supplication. We cannot but suspect that we are treated with the memorial of an onslaught against some unsuspecting and unprepared tribe. The distinction observable on these relics of antiquity between

A GLANCE AT THE ZOOLOGICAL REPRESENTATIONS ON THE NINEVEH BAS-RELIEFS.



LIONESS.

the slow and the swift camel is very interesting, for the two breeds are preserved to the present day. The pace of the slow-going camel used for burden is about three miles an hour, regular as clockwork, the load of each animal being between four and five hundredweight. Such are the camels of which long files or caravans still cross the desert as they did of yore, bearing their loads of merchandise; and such is the fleet dromedary, the *Maherry* or *El Heirie* of the Arabian desert, of which the Arab thus speaks in figurative language, "When thou shalt meet a *Heirie*, and say to the rider 'Peace be between us,' ere he shall have answered 'There is peace between us,' he will be far off and nearly out of sight, for his swiftness is like the wind." It is said that a journey of seventy or even a hundred miles in the twenty-four hours, and continued for several successive days at the same ratio, is by no means an unusual rate of travelling. The swift *Heirie* is still used for the conveyance of messengers, as it was in the time when "Mordecai sent letters by post on horseback, and riders on mules, camels, and young dromedaries." It is also at the present



HUNTING DOGS.

time employed in desultory warfare in the desert; that it was so anciently is well known, for we read of "four hundred young men that rode on camels," which escaped the sword of David. Bonaparte, when in Egypt, had a dromedary corps, each animal carrying two soldiers.

WILD ASS TAKEN IN A LASSO.

Noble was the breed of horses among the Assyrians, and most characteristic are the delineations of these high-blood animals, which the slabs present to our inspection in great abundance. Among the nations of antiquity the horse was not commonly used for servile drudgery—it was employed as an arm of war; it drew the light chariots of the monarch or his leaders in battle, or in the pursuit of the lion and other animals of the chase; or it carried warriors armed either with the spear, or the bow; or it swelled the pageant of a triumphal procession. It was adorned with embroidered trappings, with rosettes, fringes, tassels, and plumes. Horsemen and charioteers constituted an important part of the Assyrian army. "Horsemen," says Mr Layard, "are seen in the most ancient sculptures of Nimroud; and I have already mentioned that disciplined bodies of cavalry were represented in the bas-reliefs of Kouyunjik." We learn from the Book of

CHETAH, OR HUNTING LEOPARD

Judith that Holofernes had 12,000 archers on horseback. By the side of the King a horse richly caparisoned, apparently for his use—perhaps to enable him to fly, should his chariot-horses be killed—is frequently seen, led by a warrior, and following his chariot.

The same writer, after observing that the horses of the Assyrians, as far as we can judge from the sculptures, were well formed, and apparently, of noble blood, adds:—"It has been doubted whether the breed for which Mesopotamia and the neighbouring deserts of Arabia are now celebrated, existed in the same vast plains at a remote

ELEPHANT. RHINOCEROS, OR STRAIGHT-HORNED OX.

period, or whether it was introduced shortly after the Mahometan conquest."

In our opinion the original country of the horse extends over the central regions of Asia, whence, in a domestic state, it passed into South-Western Asia; and thence, by an influx of conquering nomadic hordes (Hyksos Scythians or Shepherd Kings) into Egypt.

It may be remembered that, in the year B.C. 1920, Abraham was driven by famine into Egypt: the then reigning Pharaoh possessed sheep, oxen, camels, and asses in abundance; but the horse is not mentioned. About 205 years later, when Joseph was viceroy in Egypt, we not only read of his riding in the second chariot, but of his accepting horses in exchange for corn from the Royal granary. And at a subsequent period the Israelities, on their "exodus," were pursued by six hundred chosen chariots, besides horsemen. At a still later period the Hebrews, though debarred by the Mosaic injunctions from "multiplying horses," abundant in the surrounding territories tenanted by hostile nations, broke in process of time through the law, and added cavalry and chariots to their army, and to the "apparatus" of royalty. "Horses were offered to the Jews by the Assyrian King as an acceptable present (See 2 Kings, xviii 23); and on the statistical tablet of Karnak they are mentioned among the objects of tribute brought by the people of Naharaina (Mesopotamia) and the neighbouring countries to the Egyptians. The Jews carried on a trade with Egypt in horses (see 1. Kings, x., 28, 29): the Egyptians received their stock from Mesopotamia. With respect to the modern Arabian horse, we may observe that it was not cultivated till after the time of

BABOON ON THE SHOULDERS OF A SHOWMAN.

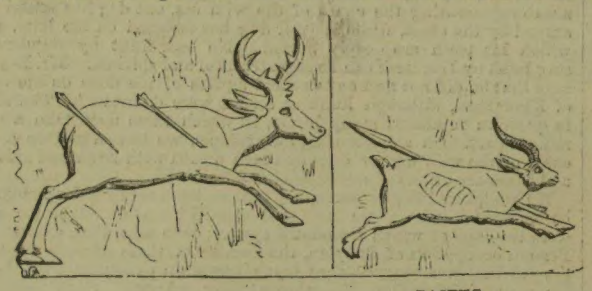
Mahomet, who wrote in its praise. No doubt it is a descendant of the old Assyrian race, such as is described in that celebrated passage of the Book of Job, the grandeur of which no classic poet has equalled. We might dilate to a great extent upon this subject, in which the history of the horse is blended with that of man. But we must draw in the reins, though an open course is before us. We may, however, direct our readers to the fourth chapter of the "History of the Horse," by W. C. L. Martin (Knight and Co.), in which those interested on such a topic may find some observations worthy of their consideration.

With respect to the mule little need be said—it was evidently used as a beast of burden, and was a powerful animal, probably the offspring of the wild ass and Assyrian mare. The subjoined cut will give an idea of its fine form and proportions. It is represented carrying nets to the hunting-field.

SHEEP. SPIRAL-HORNED GOATS.

Among smaller quadrupeds we notice the hare, of which we engrave one held by the hind legs in the hand of a sportsman. It is probably the *Lepus Ægyptiacus*, smaller than our common European species.

Let us now turn to the species of the feathered tribe which these bas-reliefs represent. The ostrich is represented incised on the robe of a eunuch; and, always in connection with scenes of battle and slaughter, is the vulture conspicuous. On one slab, evidently representing the



STAG. PASENG.

capitulation of a city, we behold three vultures—two on the wing and one feasting on the body of a slain warrior. The slab is marked 15 *b*. The birds, we may observe, are more conventionally drawn than the quadrupeds, and do not appear to have been so diligently studied by the artists—who, however, fail both in their figures of the elephant, and the apes or monkeys. On another slab in the gallery, representing a triumphal return after some devastating inroad, a vulture is seen towering aloft, carrying in its talons the head of one of the slain. A conflict is depicted on another bas-relief, where, over the combatants a vulture soars in the air, dragging in his claws the entrails of one of the fallen heroes, which he has torn,

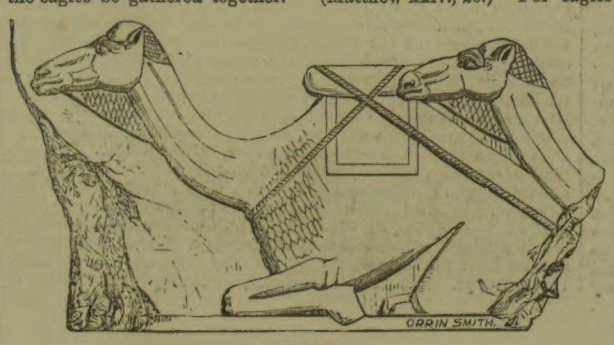
SOW AND LITTER.

perchance, from the yet quivering body. As we surveyed this bas-relief we involuntarily uttered to ourselves a line in Ovid, which the revolting picture recalled to memory—

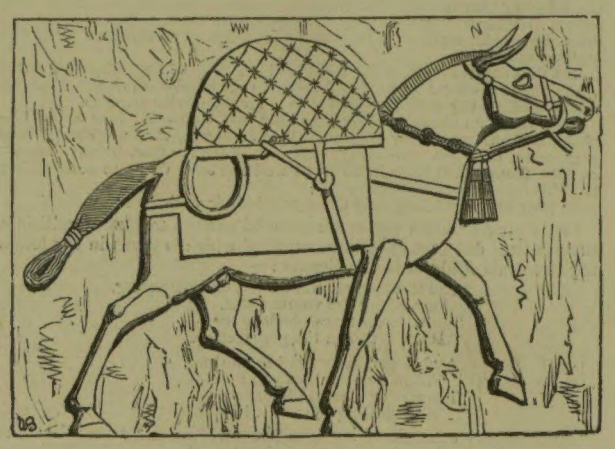
Unguibus et rostro, tardus trahit ilia vultur.

(With talons and with beak the sluggish vulture trails forth the inward parts.)

From the earliest times the vultures have been notorious for their attendance on the battlefield. "Wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together." (Matthew xxiv., 28.) For eagles



CAMELS.



MULE.

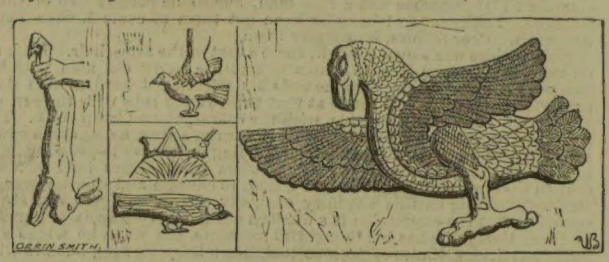
read vultures. Homer alludes to the united feast of vultures and wild dogs on the bodies of the slain in battle; and in fact the ancient classic writings teem with passages illustrative of such scenes of warfare as these slabs delineate, in which the vulture plays a conspicuous part.

Per auras longè ducuntur odore volurii cadaveribus.—LUCRETIUS.

The vulture thus depicted appears to be the griffon (*Vultur fulvus*).

Besides the vulture we have the pigeon and the swallow. The annexed cuts are representations of these birds, as they are delineated on various slabs:—

Turning from land scenes to representations of rivers, or the margin of the sea—on which are war-galleys, boats, and men swimming—we see fish in abundance; some short and scaled, others long and eel-like, together with crabs, tortoises, and reptiles. To determine the species would be an almost useless attempt, for it is evident that the artist aimed rather at the indication of water than of any species of the finny tribe which might tenant it—these being merely adjuncts to certify to the spectator its distinction from the land.



HARE. PIGEON, LOCUST, BIRD. HAWK.

Among insects we observe the locust.

So far then, irrespective of chronological arrangement, have we passed over in zoological review the recovered relics of buried Nineveh. We confess to the meagreness of our details; but we have done as much as possible within the limited space allotted to us. We merely give rough notes *en passant*—nothing more.

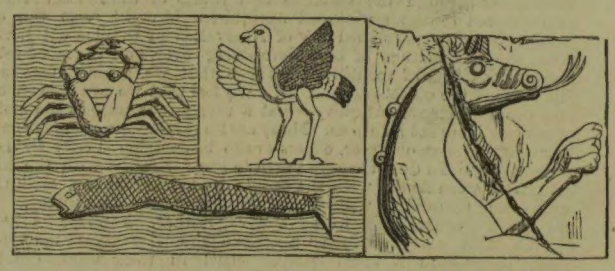
The following are the sources whence the Illustrations have been derived:—

Lioness, from a slab discovered by Mr. H. Rassam, and now in the vaults of the British Museum. See also Engraving in ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for May 24th, 1856.

Wild Ass, from a slab in the British Museum, discovered by Mr. Loftus. It is represented taken in a lasso.

Elephant; Chetah, or *Hunting Leopard; Rhinoceros*, or *Straight-horned Ox*, from the Nimroud obelisk in the British Museum, discovered by Mr. Layard. The chetah is depicted on the Nimroud obelisk attacking a stag or gazelle. This latter animal is seen finely portrayed n several successive slabs in Asshurbanipal Palace.

Goats and *Sheep, Monkey, Eagle, Ostrich; Human-headed Winged Lion and Eagle-headed Human Figure*, engraved on a eunuch's robe, from slabs found at Nimroud by Mr. Layard. The eagle-headed figure is apparently castigating the winged lion. The tail of the lion shows the claw at the extremity, which is more clearly represented on the Nimroud Sculptures.



CRAB. FISH. OSTRICH. FABULOUS MONSTER.

Wild Pig and Young, Crab, Fish, from Kouyunjik Gallery in the British Museum. A smaller description of fish is shown on slab engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for August 16, 1856. (Crabs are caught in the River Khauser, which runs by the mounds of Kouyunjik and Khorsabhad.)

Camels, from one of Mr. Boutcher's sketches—the original sculpture was lost in the Tigris.

Mule, from a slab in the British Museum, discovered by Mr. Loftus. It is represented going to the hunting-ground, carrying a portion of a net inclosure.

Gazelle, Stag, Dogs, Hare, Hawk, from slabs in the British Museum, discovered by Mr. Loftus.

Small Bird, from a fragment in Mr. Boutcher's possession.

Locust, from one of Mr. Boutcher's sketches—fragment left at Nineveh. The grasshopper or locust and the bird, are sculptured on the trees of a garden where the King and Queen are enjoying themselves.

Fabulous Monster, from a slab found by Mr. Loftus. This slab formed one of the entrance-portals. The animal had lion's legs.

EAGLE-HEADED HUMAN FIGURE. HUMAN-HEADED WINGED LION.

We subjoin a list of the Illustrations of the Nineveh Zoology already engraved in our Journal—the whole of which were found in the Palace of Asshurbanipal, at Kouyunjik:—

Horse, given in ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for January 19th 1856; *Lion*, May 24th, 1856, and January 19th, 1856; *Cows, &c.*, January 19th, 1856.

Lion-headed human-bodied griffin-footed Monster is shown on the good and evil genii slab in ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Nov. 15, 1856

THE SOULAGE COLLECTION.

[CONCLUDING NOTICE.]

BRONZES, FURNITURE, AND ENAMELS.

In a former article we noticed the pottery of this collection; the catalogue of the bronzes and furniture being now completed, we notice a few of the most remarkable works in this department.

No. 334. A pair of bronze firedogs of extraordinary beauty, renaissance design, with the arms of the Venetian Barbarigo family, the date given is 1570—that is to say, when Paul Veronese was in the zenith of his power. One of the figures represents a man with a dog; the other, a woman with a hand mirror: the chase and the toilet being the occupation of cavalier and dame. There is another lot of four fender-irons of much the same period. These utensils are in wrought iron, beautifully ornamented, and surmounted by bronze satyrs. The English spectator accustomed to our coal fires and pokers will admire the different devices for manipulating faggots.

No. 442 is a magnificent chimneypiece in carved stone of the beginning of the fifteenth century. Projecting corbels designed with extraordinary freedom and elegance support the chimney cover, or *parafumo* as the Italians used to call it. All around this canopy is a strikingly-beautiful frieze in altissimo relievo, representing hunting scenes. This exceedingly curious and elegant piece was brought from the palace of the Counts Petinelli, at Padua.

No. 690 is a walnut-wood cabinet of the middle of the sixteenth century, one of the most elegant specimens of French renaissance work which we have seen. It is said to be the work of Bachelier, of Toulouse, who is reported to have studied in Italy and to have been a pupil of Michael Angelo. The relievo in the centre division represents David with the head of Goliath. The rest of this fine piece is ornamented with sphinxes, niches, and statuettes, in the boldest Italian style. The Dutch and German cabinets of the seventeenth century have an inelegant rudeness of design compared with such a work as this.

No. 669 is a metallic mirror in a carved case or frame of the Italian school. The catalogue attributes this piece to Benvenuto Cellini, in consequence of its resemblance to the marble pedestal of the statue of Perseus in Florence. In the centre the metallic plate is covered by a sunk sliding panel, which is carved so as to represent a female profile like an antique cameo. The framework is of a bold and elegant design, like renaissance architecture.

No. 331 is a salver and gilt bronze of Venetian engraved work, and a ewer to match. These are very remarkable and very beautiful pieces, in consequence of being so completely filled up by the engraving. They may be called Italian editions of that art of basin engraving in which the Persians were such adepts, but with different designs. This represents the attack and defence of fortified places, and is ornamented with much scrollwork. There are many figures of men and horses on the ewer, which is of an antique shape.

The enamelled work of this collection is curious and valuable. No. 437 is a fine piece of enamelled sculpture of Luca della Robbia-ware. The catalogue states that, although it is from the fabbrica of Luca della Robbia, it is, probably, by Andrea or one of his sons, dating after 1500. The curious carved frame, although of ancient Italian work, is of a later date than the piece itself. No. 438, "The Adoration of the Kings," a fine work, is of an earlier period.

The Limousin enamels of France are in this collection very well represented, and are the more valuable from their extreme rarity and the enormous prices now given for them by fanatical or patriotic French collectors. As M. Soulage lived not very far from Limoges, this may account for the richness of the collection. No. 317. "Plapue, a Portrait of Charles Tiercelin, Seigneur de la Roche Dumaine en Poitou, Chancelier de France." This is the work of Leonard Limousin, one of the ablest artists of the best period of this ware. Another of these artists of the best period was Jean Courtois, who has given scenes from the history of Joseph well worthy of examination, such as Nos. 326 and 327. We apprehend that this collection of Limousin enamels will, from its beauty, rarity, and historical celebrity, prove to be one of the most interesting portions of this cabinet of curiosities—comprising so many objects which the skill and ingenuity of the workers of the period of the Revival produced to gratify the taste or the vanity of the opulent.

THE "REBECCA" AND "BARBARIGO," AT THE PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION, 123, REGENT-STREET.

These pictures have been painted by a Pole, resident in Florence, who is a member of the Academy of the Fine Arts there. They are now on sale. They are fair specimens of the modern school of Italy, with which many of our readers are no doubt acquainted. The Doge, with a noble and expressive countenance, is represented haranguing the Venetians against the French, then invading Italy, under Charles VIII. "Rebecca" is, we think, a more interesting subject, for the other picture has no background which recalls either the architecture or manners of Venice in the fifteenth century. In the case of "Rebecca" we have a landscape and still life reminding us of Syria and Mesopotamia. The expression of "Rebecca" is pleasing, and the handling is altogether larger than in the other picture.

In the same establishment we found a newly-executed photographic portrait of the Duke of Cambridge for the Queen, which in resemblance cannot be surpassed. We also saw at this Association several specimens of the new process of photography on ivory, which admit of being coloured with a delicacy which reminds us of hand miniature. In face, miniature-painters, except those of the highest class, seem now to be in as bad a predicament as the copyists after the invention of printing, or the hand-loom weavers after the introduction of steam power

A FRENCH ARTEMISIA.—The adjourned case of Madame Audouin against Colonel Dubost, in which she claimed 100,000 francs damages, for his refusal to complete his marriage and live with her, came on before the Civil Tribunal of the Seine for judgment last week. The Court gave a verdict for the defendant, and condemned Madame Audouin to pay the costs of the proceedings. The public minister was more severe upon the lady than even the counsel for the defence. He called her an Artemisia, unworthy of any sympathy; and expressed an opinion that if she, who two months after the death of her first husband was ready to exchange her mourning attire for bridal robes, had suffered any damage, it was only such as resulted from the scandal of the action which she had brought.

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SILKS at REDUCED PRICES.—The following elegant and useful Silks will be offered for Sale by BEECH and BERRALL, the Beehive, 63 and 64, Edgware-road, London, on MONDAY next, and following days:—
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Patterns for inspection, postage-free. Early applications are requested to this important lot of cheap Silks.
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For Ease, Elegance, and Durability they have no rival. Coloured Patterns, Book of 70 Illustrations, &c., for two stamps.
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SHIRTS Cut on a principle that cannot fail to fit. J. BENTLEY, French Shirt-maker, 182, Oxford-street (near Orchard-street).
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Patent Lever Watch, with ornamented gold dial, the movement with latest improvements, i.e., the detached escapement, maintaining power, and jewelled	11	11	0
Ditto, with richly engraved case	12	12	0
Ditto, with very strong case, and jewelled in four holes	14	14	0
GOLD WATCHES.—SIZE FOR GENTLEMEN.			
Patent Lever Watch, with the latest improvements, i.e., the detached escapement, jewelled in four holes, hard enamel dial, seconds, and maintaining power	10	10	0
Ditto, in stronger case, improved regulator, and capped	13	13	0
Ditto, jewelled in six holes, and gold balance	17	17	0

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CELEBRATED HAIR PREPARATIONS.—ALEX. ROSS'S Liquid Hair Dye, easily applied, being the best in the world—sold from 3s. 6d.; sent free for fifty-four stamps. Alex. Ross's Hair Destroyer, or Depilatory, for removing superfluous hair from the face, neck, arms, and hands, 3s. 6d. per bottle; sent for stamps, free of post, eight extra. Alex. Ross's Cantharides Oil, a sure restorer of the hair, 3s. 9d.; sent for fifty-four stamps. Alex. Ross's Face Powder, or Pomodore, 1s.; free, fourteen stamps. Liquid Rouge, 2s. 6d. per bottle; sent free for thirty-six stamps, by Alex. Ross, 1, Little Queen-street, High Holborn. Wholesale agent, Barclay, Farringdon-street.

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Used in the Royal Laundry,
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The finest Starch she ever used.
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London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLE, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, JAN. 10, 1857.